The Post

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ALLENBY'S NEW PUSH

ANOTHER ADVANCE IN PALESTINE.

ATTACKS NEAR JOPPA AND JERUSALEM.

RIVER BARRIER CROSSED AND HIGH GROUND SECURED.

A new advance is reported in Palestine. General Allenby states that our troops have successfully crossed the Nahr El Auja (north of Joppa), and have also captured Ras Ez Zandy, north-east of Jerusalem.

In the attack on the Joppa front our troops captured the commanding ground north of the river, and north of Jerusalem they have beaten off three Trukish attempts to regain the lost position.

General Allenby reports the capture in these two attacks of 330 prisoners, and states that since the beginning of the operations we have taken from the Turks the high totals of 99 guns, 110 machine guns, and 7000 rifles, besides vast quantities of ammunition.

Two attempted air raids were made on Saturday night. One raider was forced to descend close to the Kentish coast, the crew of three being captured alive.

In the second attack a few bombs were dropped in Thanet. The raiders did not penetrate further inland.

Sir Douglas Haig reports patrol encounters during the night south of Cambrai in which the enemy suffered casualties.

The British armed boarding steamer Stephen Furness was sunk by a submarine in the Irish Channel. Six officers are included in the death-roll of 101.

NEW ADVANCE IN PALESTINE—STRONG TURKISH LINE STORMED.

War Office, Saturday Night.

General Alleby reports that about midnight, December 20-21, our troops crossing the Nahr El Auja (river six miles north of Joppa) on rafts and light bridges, seized Khurbet Hadrah, Sheikh Muannis, Tel er Rekkeit, and later El Makhras.

These localities are near the mouth of the river, and include commanding ground two miles to the north of it.

Three hundred and five prisoners, of whom eleven were officers, and ten machine guns were captured.

Other forces captured Ras Ez Zandy, two miles north-east of Bethany (east of Jerusalem), taking thirty prisoners and two machine guns and beating off three counter-attacks.

General Allenby has also reported the following captures since the commencement of operations:—

99 guns and howitzers, with carriages.

About 400 limbers, waggons, and other vehicles.

110 machine guns, more than 7000 rifles, 18,500,000 rounds of small arm ammunition, and over 58,000 rounds of gun and howitzer ammunition, besides various other stores.

London, Saturday Night.

It is a satisfactory feature that General Allenby is in a position to strike again so soon after his capture of Jerusalem. His report indicates attacks on his wings. The Nahr El Auja is a river in the plain of Sharon entering the Mediterranean a short distance north of Joppa. The second front of attack is east of Jerusalem. The success of both operations is further proof of sound, decided staff work and of the indomitable tenacity of the troops engaged in the Palestine campaign.

PATROL ACTIONS ON CAMBRAI FRONT.

General Headquarters, France, 9.45 p.m., Saturday.

Patrol encounters took place during the night south of Cambrai in which casualties were inflicted on the enemy.

Hostile artillery has shown increased activity throughout the day at a number of points along the front from Armentieres to Langemarck.

HEAVY ATTACKS REPULSED

ON THE ITALIAN FRONT.

ENEMY'S GROWING DESPERATION.

London, Saturday Night.

The Press Association Special Correspondent with the French Army in Italy, telegraphing to-night, says:—

There is every indication that within the next few days the Austrians and Germans will make another attempt on a greater scale than any of their previous efforts to recapture Grappa and push down to the plain before the advent of real winter.

Heavy concentrations of enemy troops to the north and east of Grappa point unmistakably to this conclusion.

In the region of the Monte Communi movements of troops are clearly defined. The operations on the Piave Vecchia and among the inundations of the lower Piave may be interpreted as part of the general plan to divert the attention of the Italians to as many points as possible before the blow is struck in the mountains.

As we know from prisoners, the enemy not only need a striking success before winter in order to impress his own people, but to secure more tolerable winter positions for his troops.

Italian Troops Confident.

The enemy, when he comes, will find the Allied staffs and armies prepared and the Italian troops in confident aggressive spirit. The prompt recapture of almost all the ground lost on December 18 has brought home to the Italians fighting in the mountains that even when forced to remain on the defensive their old offensive methods which served them so well during the first two years of war are still their best defence.

There is little doubt that the attack on Asolone, which commands the rear slopes of Grappa, was the first move of an operation against Grappa itself.

The Italians on their side are not idle. More batteries are continually being brought up, and hundreds of men are constantly at work improving the precipitous mountain roads which the Italian motor lorries and ambulances scale to the very crest of Grappa.

Around and behind one ring of Italian seventy-fives batteries are peppering the Austrian positions on the northern crest of Asolone. Little villages of tents mark where regiments going down for rest camped for the night.

A BERLIN LOOT WAREHOUSE.

SALE OF GOODS STOLEN IN BELGIUM.

Headquarters French Front, France
(Received Saturday Night.)

Great opportunities are now being offered to the war profiteers of Berlin to acquire the spoils gathered by the German soldiers in France and Belgium from the houses and farms of the conquered civilians of these countries, who have been deported to various parts of Germany to work for their captors.

Official recognition has been given by the German Government to the practice of the German troops of laying hands on everything valuable belonging to the people of the invaded countries, for it has founded in Berlin a ware booty office to which all the articles thus acquired may be sent for sale. Here, connoisseurs may select from large quantities of ancient jewellery, clocks, furniture, &c

Whether the price paid go to the German Government or to the officer or soldier who forwarded the consignment for disposal is not ascertainable here.

Advertisements are inserted in newspapers of neutral countries calling attention to the opportunities for obtaining bargains.—Press Association.

GERMAN SURPRISE ATTACK FAILS.

Paris, Saturday Night.

Both artilleries were active in the sector of Chenay, north-west of Rheims, on the right bank of the Meuse, and in Upper Alsace in the region of La Thur and La Doller.

In the sector of Bezonvaux a German surprise attack this morning failed under our fire.—French Night Official.

BOARDING SHIP SUNK.

TORPEDOED IN IRISH CHANNEL.

101 LIVES LOST.

Press Bureau, Saturday Night.

The Secretary of the Admiralty announces that H.M.S. Stephen Furness (Lieutenant-Commander Thomas M. Winslow, R.D., R.N.R.), armed boarding steamer, has been torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine in the Irish Channel.

Six officers and 95 men, including mercantile crew, were lost.

All the next-of-kin have been informed.

RELEASE OF WAR PRISONERS.

HITCH IN THE CONFERENCE.

Amsterdam, Saturday.

The semi-official Norddeutsche Allgemine Zeitung states, according to a Berlin telegram, that French and German negotiations at Berne regarding the exchange and internment of prisoners of war who have been eighteen months imprisoned failed to reach an agreement.

France, the journal says, demand that the exchange and internment of all healthy prisoners should take place in proportion to number, which would mean Germany releasing about double as many prisoners of war as France.

Nevertheless a series of measures were agreed on for the substantial alleviation of the position of prisoners, notably an extensive fresh internment in Switzerland of wounded and sick.

The journal adds the French absolutely refused to discuss the release of inhabitants of Alsace-Lorraine wrongfully detained, and the population of occupied France will have to bear the consequences of the refusal.—Press Association.

BRITISH SUCCESS IN MACEDONIA.

56 Prisoners Taken.

London, Saturday.

The following official British communique from Salonika was issued to-day:—

Shortly after daybreak on December 20 our troops carried out a most successful raid at Butkova Dzuma (north-west of Lake Butkova), capturing one officer and 56 men, with slight losses to themselves.

Hostile artillery has been active on the Doiran-Vardar front.

POLISH ARMY AND THE BOLSHEVIK

To Remain Neutral Concerning Russia's Politics.

London, Saturday Night.

Reuter's Agency learns from an authoritative source that the Commander-in-Chief of the Polish Army in Russia, General Dowbor Musnick, has been requested by the Bolshevik military committee of Petrograd to declare on which side the Polish Army stood. General Musnick has replied that the Polish Army would take no part in matters concerning Russian internal political affairs, and would observe a passive attitude with regard to recent events in Petrograd. He says:—"In defence of the civilian population, regardless of nationality, we shall use arms against any robbers or violaters of the peace."

AUSTRIA SEETHING WITH DISCONTENT.

Geneva, Saturday.

The Arbeiter Zeitung states that, owing to the poverty and misery of the people, practically no Christmas trees will be sold this year at Vienna. The same paper says that the Viennese are hungry, cold, and seething with discontent.—Exchange.

FRENCH CHAMBER AND M. CAILLAUX.

Paris, Saturday.

The Chamber voted by 417 votes to two the withdrawal of Parliamentary immunity in the case of M. Caillaux. In the case of M. Loustalot the vote was unanimous.

AIR RAID.

ONE GOTHA DOWN.

CREW CAPTURED.

TWO ATTACKS FRUSTRATED.

Press Bureau,
Saturday Night.

An air raid was attempted on the Kentish Coast shortly after 6 p.m.

One raider was forced to descend close to the coast, the crew of three being captured alive.

No other machines came over the land at this time.

A second attack developed about 9.30 p.m., when a few bombs were dropped in Thanet.

The raiders did not penetrate further inland.

No casualties or damage have been reported.

GOTHA BURSTS INTO FLAMES.

CREW TAKEN PRISONERS

London, Saturday Night.

A Press Association Kentish coast correspondent, telephoning to-night, says:—

About six o'clock a hostile aeroplane passed over the coastline at this place.

The machine was flying very low, and it dropped some flares. It appeared to be coming down as though with the intention of finding its location.

Suddenly the machine burst into flames and was forced to descend.

It was found to be a German Gotha, and the three members comprising its crew were taken prisoners.

Another correspondent says:—The inhabitants of the south-east coast had a surprise to-night. No thought of hostile aircraft had entered the heads of the people.

Following on a snowstorm during the day, with heavy clouds at dark and no moon or stars, but at early evening, the blowing of the danger syren startled people, denoting the approach of enemy aircraft.

Nothing, however, transpired, and within the hour the safety signal was blown.

This is the second raid on the Kentish Coast this week, the first one being attempted on Tuesday night. On that occasion two of the raiders were brought down.

ARGENTINE AND GERMANY

Strong Demand for Rupture of Relations.

Buenos Ayres (Received Saturday).

A demonstration was held here last evening in favour of rupture with Germany. The police dispersed those present.

The press commentary on the Luxburg telegrams declares that, in spite of Baron Von Kuhlmann's disavowal, it is proved that Germany agreed to, and approved, Luxburg's language and the majority of his proposals. It is also proved, the newspapers say, that the Argentine was the centre of German intrigues in South America, and that the Kaiser and Chancellor had full confidence in Luxburg. They add that it is, therefore, a question, not of an irresponsible person, but of an instrument of the German Government.

The newspapers fail to understand why all the telegrams have not been deciphered. Some journals demand definite rupture with Germany. Agitation is beginning again among the younger population.—Press Association.

PEACE DELEGATES ARRIVE.

COUNT CZERNIN AT BREST LITOVSK.

NEGOTIATIONS TO BEGIN NEXT WEEK.

Amsterdam, Saturday.

According to a telegram from Vienna, the newspapers there learn from well-informed quarters that Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, and his staff, arrived at Brest Litovsk at noon on Thursday last. Count Czernin was received at the railway station by the Chief of the General Staff of the Supreme Army Command in the East.

The first meeting of the Russian plenipotentiaries took place at a dinner and was of a friendly character. The formal peace negotiations will not begin until early next week as the German, Turkish, and Bulgarian delegates only arrived at Brest Litovsk yesterday and to-day, therefore only informal discussions are taking place.

THE GERMAN PEACE OFFER.

Amsterdam, Saturday.

The Koelnische Zeitung writes:—Reports are current in the foreign press that Germany will repeat its peace offer. Regarding these reports it can be categorically declared that this is not the case. Germany and her Allies have no reason to repeat their peace offer.

It is reported from Brest Litovsk that the German representatives have declared it desirable from the point of view of principle that all the belligerents should participate in the peace negotiations.

It has accordingly been decided that both sides should proceed to invite France, Great Britain, Italy, and the United States to send delegates to take part in the pourparlers.

The Germans consider it necessary to know the replies of the Allies before opening formal negotiations.

They are disposed to accept the principle of "no annexation or indemnities," but they have made express reservations with regard to the right of nationalities to dispose of themselves.

In Austria opinion is sceptical concerning the result of peace negotiations with Russia. The semi-official Fremdenblatt points out the civil war in Russia, warning its readers against entertaining too great expectations, as the situation in Russia is not at all clear.

FINNISH INDEPENDENCE.

Copenhagen, Saturday.

The Stockholm correspondent of The National Tidende telegraphs that the Bolshevik Government has issued a manifesto, declaring that the Russian Government will in no way interfere with the affairs of Finland, or endeavour to restrict the independence to which the Finnish people has the same right as any other people belonging to the Russian Republic.

PLUCKY PRISONER OF WAR

Refused to Give His Parole.

London, Saturday Night.

The story of a very plucky and patriotic action is told by an Admiralty message announcing the death of Richard Dennett, a seaman of H.M.S. Weymouth, the only son of a widow living at Leyton.

Dennett, who was a prisoner of war in Africa, died as long ago as 19th March. Another prisoner, since released, states that Dennet was badly wounded in action, a bullet lodging in his abdomen. Medical appliances for an operation not being available the Germans offered him release on condition that he signed a declaration of neutrality.

This Dennett persistently refused to do, although he might thereby have saved his life. Later he developed blackwater fever and dysentery and died.

STEEL TRADE DISPUTE

Referred to Arbitration.

London, Saturday Night.

A dispute has arisen between the operatives and the employers connected with the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the manufactured steel trade of the West of Scotland and the Board of Conciliation and Arbitration for the Steam, Electrical, and Hydraulic Service of the Steel Trade of the West of Scotland. The first-named embraces millmen and the second the men engaged in various steam, electrical, and other steel works in the West of Scotland. The contentious points have been referred to Sir Ernest Hatch to arbitrate upon, and it is hoped that his decision will be announced within a few days.

FIVE MILLIONS FROM MANCHESTER'S "TANK WEEK."

Manchester, Saturday Night.

The Manchester Tank closed finally at eight o'clock to-night.

The exact amount realised will not be known till the accounts are made up on Monday. To-day's takings are estimated at three quarters of a million sterling, bringing the total for the week up to £4,500,000 approximately.

It is expected that sums still to be received through the post will increase the gross total to five million pounds.

An Order in Council has been issued prohibiting the importation of intoxicating liquor into Canada.

ITALIANS HOLD THEIR GAINS.

FIGHTING AT MOUNT ASOLONE.

TROOPS MAGNIFICENT ELAN.

Rome, Saturday Night.

In the Mont Asolone region, parties of "Arditti," notwithstanding adverse atmospheric conditions, kept the fighting lively and again realised some progress. A hostile counter-attack was at once repulsed.

More to the west, towards Osteria id Lepre, an enemy detachment, taking advantage of the fog, attempted to break into our positions, but was stopped by the entanglements and driven back by brisk rifle fire.

At Mount Solarolo a surprise attack was completely crushed, after a lively engagement, with hand bombs.

On the remainder of the front artillery actions only took place.

On the Asiago Plateau enemy troops were effectively shelled, and to the east of Ponte Della Triula hostile batteries were silenced. —Italian Official Report.

THE CAPTURE OF MOUNT ASOLONE.

Magnificent Dash of Italian Troops.

Rome, Saturday.

During the action against Monte Asolone the Italians advanced more than half a mile, and now menace other important positions held by the enemy.

The victory must be attributed chiefly to the magnificent elan of the Italian troops, but it is doubtless due in part to the difficulties in which the enemy now finds himself after using up, within the past ten days, ten divisions and enormous stocks of munitions.

VATICAN REPUDIATES A RUMOUR.

Absolutely Devoid of Foundation.

Rome, Friday.

The Osservatore Romano, the Vatican organ, replying to the Deputy-Signor Pirolini's assertion in the Chamber yesterday that Monsignors Pacelli and Tedeschini, Under-Secretaries of State to the Vatican, were present at a reception which was attended by Madame Caillaux, says we are authorised to declare that any such statement is absolutely devoid of foundation. It is all the more worthy of reprobation because of the insistence with which, especially in Italy and France, it is desired to associate the Holy See with the crimes now being investigated by the French Tribunals.

As a matter of fact, the Vatican has never had even the most distant connection, direct or indirect, either with M. Caillaux, M. Renouard, or with any member of their entourage.

The Holy See, in again protesting against such charges, remarks that all Catholics are opposed to this campaign of defamation and calumny.

AUSTRIAN SOCIALIST LEADER

Favours a General Peace.

Zurich, Saturday.

In the course of the peace debate in the Reichsrath Dr Adler, the Austrian Socialist leader, urged that advantage should be taken of the peace negotiations with Russia to bring about a general peace.

It is greatly to be feared, added Dr Adler, that if the prospects of a general peace are now allowed to disappear, or to be shattered by any means whatever, the separate peace which is desired by many will not be obtained. Peace with Russia can only be made after the way has been opened for a general peace. The hope entertained by many that the troops released from the East may fight in the West will hardly be fulfilled.

The mass of the people do not wish that the soldiers withdrawn from the Vistula, Baltic, and Black Sea fronts should continue their murderous and self-sacrificing activities in the West. If we speak plainly, concluded Dr Adler, others must do the same. Then we shall be on the way not to a separate peace, which, after all, we shall be unable to obtain, but on the way to a general peace.

SHOP STEWARDS CONFER

Terms of Agreement.

London, Saturday.

Following the five days' conference on the shop stewards question between the Engineering Employer's Federation and the Trade Unions concerned, terms have been drawn up and signed. The A.S.E., the Scientific Instrument-makers Union, and the Engineer's Union did not subscribe to the terms.

THE ROYAL CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY.

London, Saturday Night.

The King and Queen, with Princess Mary, Prince Albert, Prince George, and Prince Henry, left town to-day for Sandringham, and will spend the Christmas and New Year season at His Majesty's Norfolk seat.

KRUPPS FACTORY ON FIRE.

EXPLOSION AT POWER STATION.

"WORKS SERIOUSLY DAMAGED."

Amsterdam, Saturday.

The Echo Belge hears from the German frontier that Krupp's Factory at Essen is burning, a fire having broken out early yesterday morning.

The Dutch workmen have been ordered to quit for Holland.

According to the Telegraaf's frontier correspondent, Dutch workmen state that the explosion occurred at an electric power station of Krupp's works at Essen owing to a short circuit. The building is stated to have been seriously damaged.

NO VICTORY WITHOUT ALSACE.

FRENCH COMMENT ON PREMIER'S SPEECH.

Paris, Saturday.

All the newspapers comment to-day on Mr Lloyd George's statement in the House of Commons, and emphasise its importance. The Matin considers it entirely satisfactory, because it clearly points out to the enemy the only ground on which he can enter upon conversations if he has any intention of making any further peace proposals.

The journal continues:—What is better than words, and what should be known in France, is that our British and American Allies desire to make their sacrifices as great as our own. They are giving us by their military disposition a further practical assurance that they will be by our side with the whole of their available forces the moment we are attacked. Our aims are the same as theirs. Like ourselves, they consider that without Alsace Lorraine there would be no victory.

The Figaro echoes the words of Mr Lloyd George that the final aim of the war is victory. Let us fight them, says the journal, until we are victorious. The journal, while pointing out that the British Premier explained the objects of the war from a strictly British point of view, says—"The next word is now with M. Pichon."

The Echo de Paris writes:—A new order of things must necessarily arise in France by the restoration of Alsace Lorraine, of the need of which President Wilson, Mr Lloyd George, and Mr Balfour are as convinced as we are. The journal expresses regret that Mr Runciman should make a distinction between the restoration of Belgium and that of Alsace Lorraine, which France also regards as an invaded country.

The Humanite adds:—It is quite apparent that the questions at issue cannot be settled except by an agreement between the nations assembled for the purpose of arbitrating amongst themselves. The journal urges that French statesmen would likewise throw some light on the policy to be pursued to this end.

BRITISH AND DUTCH GOVERNMENTS.

Dispute about Captured German Vessels.

Amsterdam, Saturday.

The questions arising between the British and Dutch Governments with regard to the capture of four German merchant ships by British patrol vessels off Bergen-on-Sea, Holland, on July 16, are still awaiting settlement. It was alleged, it will be remembered, that this action constituted a violation of Dutch territorial waters.

The Netherlands Government, it is stated, has now briefed a London barrister to protect its interests in this matter.

CONTROLLER'S IMPORTANT SCHEME.

FOODSTUFF IN EVERY INCH OF SHIP ROOM.

Press Bureau, Saturday Night.

The Ministry of Food has submitted to a conference of shipowners a scheme by which through their co-operation additional supplies of food may be brought into the country.

The Director of Ships' Stores, Mr T. G. Jones, presided over the conference at which sixty of the leading London firms were represented.

The scheme was unanimously accepted.

Every ship, large and small, coming in to British ports will use such spare store room or other accommodation available, even passenger staterooms when unoccupied, for the conveyance of foodstuffs.

All surplus stores brought in this way will be pooled.

The pool will be controlled on co-operative lines by a committee of shipowners at the large ports, and these pooled supplies will be put in or taken out at actual cost price, including insurance. Home supplies will be drawn from as lightly as possible.

The saving of foodstuffs is obvious. The scheme really means that every cubic inch of additional space will be used for bringing in foodstuffs. Instead of drawing upon home stocks ships will be supplied with essential foodstuffs as far as can be from the pool thus made.

A London committee has been appointed to draw up working details of the scheme under the chairmanship of Mr Frank Houlder, of Messrs Houlder Bros.; and Mr W. G. De Gruchy, of the Commonwealth and Dominion Line, was appointed hon. secretary.

HUN PLOTTER IN THE STATES.

MILITARY ENTERPRISE AGAINST CANADA.

ATTEMPT TO DESTROY ARMOURIES AND TUNNEL.

Detroit, Michigan, Saturday.

Albert Kaltschmidt and four other prisoners were yesterday convicted of conspiracy in the Federal Court on charges of having set on foot in the United States a military enterprise against Canada.

The specific charges against the accused were the partial destruction of the Overall Company's plant at Walkerville, an attempt to destroy the Windsor armouries, and a plot to destroy the tunnel at Port Huron. The prisoners included two women.

Accused Pleads Guilty "To Save Germany."

London, Saturday Night.

Reuter's Agency is informed that the following is the progress that has been made in the San Francisco conspiracy case, which opened on November 20:—

The prosecution witnesses so far examined have given evidence strongly against the accused, with the exception of one approver, who refused to give any evidence, and was at once arraigned as an accused. He pleaded guilty at first, but subsequently withdrew that plea, and his case is under consideration.

On December 5 the accused Von Brincken and Schroeder pleaded guilty. Von Brincken has stated to the press that his reason for doing so was to avoid further exposures in Court, and so he thought best to serve his country, Germany. He added that the less said about the case the better it would be for Germany, and that every nation at war was bound to be involved in conspiracies. The examination of the prosecution witnesses is proceeding.

Plotters Smartly Punished.

The Chicago Conspiracy trial has ended in the conviction of four accused upon both counts (1) of engaging in a military enterprise against Great Britain, and (2) of conspiracy. On the first count the three accused —Jacobsen, Wehde, and Boehm—have been sentenced to three years' imprisonment each, and a fine of three thousand dollars each, and on the second to two years' imprisonment each and two thousand dollars each fine.

The fourth accused, the Indian, H. L. Gupta, was sentenced to eighteen months' imprisonment and a fine of a hundred dollars on each charge.

The sentences of imprisonment are to run concurrently.

PLOT TO SHIP FOOD TO GERMANY.

New York, Saturday.

The Federal Agents at Brooklyn have seized at the apartment of a certain Gustav Meyers documents which are alleged to prove the existence of an extensive scheme of food trafficking between the United States and Germany through Sweden. Meyers has been arrested and charged as an enemy alien.

According to the Federal Agents, he has shipped foodstuffs to Germany to the value of hundreds of thousands of dollars, and has been in communication with Germany as recently as a week ago. It is also added that Meyers has arrived in America since the outbreak of war.

GALLANT DISCHARGED SOLDIER

MAKES BRAVE ATTEMPT AT RESCUE.

Edmonton, Saturday.

The heroic conduct of a wounded soldier, now discharged from the army, was commented upon by the Coroner at the inquest on two munition girl workers who were drowned in the River Lea during a dense fog.

At the inquest a verdict of accidental death was returned in the case of the two munition workers, Martha Roker and Adelaide Lambe, both aged 17, who were drowned in the River Lea during the fog early on Thursday morning, death being attributed to drowning in each case.

The graphic story of the fatality was told by Reginald George, a discharged soldier, who wears the silver badge. George, who lives at Graham Road, Edmonton, joined the army early in the war, and was wounded during the battle of the Somme.

Giving evidence, George said he was returning from work at six o'clock in the morning, and, owing to the thick fog, he consented to escort three girls from the same works who had to return home by the river. The two girls, Roker and Lambe, followed behind them. When near Pickett's Lock George heard screams, and at once ran in the direction whence they came, and found a number of other employees gathered on the river bank. They told him that the two girls had fallen into the river. Electric torches were flashed on the water, and in mid-stream he saw a body rise to the surface.

Throwing off his overcoat he dived in, taking with him a lifebelt. He succeeded in getting the body to the wall, the top of which was five feet above the surface of the stream. Clutching at one arm the girl, who seemed to be alive, he threw the rope of the lifebelt to the persons on the top of the wall, but the rope broke and both sank. Again George heroically struggled to the wall, and managed to keep afloat by holding on to a broken piece of brickwork. Both were then rescued. Artificial respiration was applied to the girl, who was found to be Miss Lambe, but without success.

The Coroner said the bright feature of the case was the conduct of George, who had behaved excellently, showing both pluck and presence of mind. The fog was so thick that George could not see his hand in front of him, and this made his action all the more courageous.

ABOLISHING THE QUEUES.

MARGARINE ORDER ENFORCED.

HAMILTON'S LEAD TO SCOTTISH TOWNS.

London, Saturday Night.

The Ministry of Food issues to-night the text of the Food Controller's Order conferring upon Food Control Committees powers by resolution to put in operation and enforce schemes for controlling the distribution and consumption of any article of food in their areas, and thus to prevent queues.

The first clause of the Order empowers any Food Control Committee with the consent of the Food Controller to adopt a scheme under the Order. On the adoption of a scheme a number of provisions apply automatically, except in so far as they may be modified in the scheme itself. The principal provisions prohibit the sale of the specified article by any retailer within the area covered unless he is licensed or registered, prohibit sales by such a retailer to any save registered customers, and prohibit the sale to or purchase by any person of quantities in excess of those for the time being prescribed by the Food Committee (within general limits to be laid down by Food Controller.)

The Food Committee are given wide powers of issuing directions to limit the number of customers dealt with by any retailer, to transfer supplies from one retailer to another, and to prescribe the manner and time of sale. This Order does not extend to Ireland.

Queues in Glasgow

The housewife who had to stand in a queue in such severe weather as was experienced this morning will think that the Food Controller's Order to commandeer any margarine available and have it fairly distributed among the retailers of a district has not come a moment too soon.

There were many large queues in Glasgow this forenoon. It was the early shopper who caught the early supplies. Practically Glasgow was sold out of margarine and butter by dinner time. At the latter hour, when a dairy company's shop in the centre of the city closed its doors and displayed the notice, "Sold Out!" there was a queue of between 300 and 400 people.

The Food Commissioner in Glasgow had reports made to him by the police to-day of food queues in the city, and it was probably the fact that supplies were so meagre that no official action was taken. Over the Border the Margarine Order was enforced at several places, margarine being commandeered and distributed among a number of retailers.

The question of the better distribution of the chief necessaries is receiving the serious attention of Scottish Food Control Committees. Many are disposed to favour the Birmingham scheme, and Hamilton is the first burgh in Scotland to adopt that scheme, as sugar, tea, butter, margarine, and cheese are to be distributed equitably by retailers among their registered customers.

Pioneer Scheme for Hamilton.

Ex-Bailie F. Cassells, the Executive Officer for Hamilton, has been in Birmingham during the week, and has obtained at first hand a mass of valuable data.

Seen by a "Post" representative, ex-Bailie Cassells explained that the Birmingham scheme is on the lines of the sugar registration, and provides for retailers being registered and being allocated supplies.

The Food Control Committee in Hamilton has decided to copy the Birmingham scheme in respect of tea, butter, margarine, and cheese. Retailers who deal in these commodities are to register with the Committee before Friday of next week.

This is believed to be, for this method of distribution, the pioneer scheme for Scotland, and its progress will be watched with interest.

The Managers of Cockenzie Co-Operative Store have also adopted the excellent arrangement of utilising the sugar cards and allocating to each member the quantities of tea, butter, and margarine that is available in suitable proportion.

Brazen-Faced Get More than Their Share.

"If people would act fairly towards their neighbours there would be no need for queues," said Mr Reid, executive officer of the Bathgate Food Control Committee. What happens is that the most brazen-faced ones get more than their share, and the fair acting members of the community have to go without. Mr Reid says he has authentic proof of cases where a mother and several members of her family each received supplies all for the one house.

Communal Kitchen at Ayr

A proposal to establish a communal kitchen in Ayr is likely to become an accomplished fact. Meanwhile, butter and margarine queues continue.

EYEMOUTH MAN DROWNED IN HARBOUR.

Eyemouth, Saturday.

Mr John Young, a well-known local ex-member of the Volunteer and Territorial Forces, has been drowned in Eyemouth Harbour under distressing circumstances.

Apparently becoming faint while walking along the harbour, Mr Young fell over the edge of the quay. His cries soon attracted attention, and although he was quickly got out of the water and artificial means of respiration resorted to, he never regained consciousness. Deceased, who was much respected in the town, is the father of a very patriotic family, five sons being in the army, one in the army, and two younger lads serving as Sea Scouts.

Lieut. James Yuill Scott, Rifle Brigade, of 6 Sloane Square, Chelsea, S.W., barrister-at-law, who was killed in France on 30 September, aged 34, has left property value £26,580. He gives the family brooch of Alastair M'Ian of Glencoe, to his brother.

"ILLNESS" CURED BY THREATS.

WHAT NURSES DID WITH ADVENTURESS.

BARMAID'S DUD LEGACY OF £30,000.

Ayr, Saturday.

Recently, in Ayr Sheriff Court, a woman named Violet Horsfall or Laughran, an adventuress of an unusual type, who had been twice convicted of bigamy, was convicted of defrauding a Kilmarnock clergyman of £3 by representing that she was the heiress to an estate in Ayrshire.

To-day further accounts of her sojourn in the Emerald Isle were received in Ayr. It appeared that a barmaid in the Beresford Arms, Armagh, gave out that a legacy of £30,000 had been left her, and on the strength of this statement she entered into negotiations to buy the hotel, but was unable to produce the money for deposit.

At the hotel she took ill with fits, and was taken to the workhouse, lying seemingly unconscious for days, having to be artificially fed.

The suspicions of the staff were aroused, however, and, curiously enough, after suggestions of buckets of water, she "came to." As she had borrowed £10 from a hotel housemaid on the strength of the legacy, her recovery was watched, but she managed to get her discharge and clear out. Violet is now "doing" eighteen months.

FIRE-RAISING CHARGE AT PERTH.

PLOUGHMAN AND THE LIGHTED MATCH.

Perth, Saturday.

David Swanton, farm servant, Blacklaw Farm, Bendochy, was charged before Sheriff Sym at Perth to-day with having, on 3rd November, culpably and recklessly set fire to a stack of oats, wheat, or barley in the stackyard at East Rattray Farm, whereby twenty-three stacks were burned or destroyed. He pleaded not guilty.

Evidence showed that the accused admitted to the police that he had walked through the stackyard smoking, when the bowl of his pipe fell off, and he lighted a match to look for it. After he had gone some distance he noticed the stackyard was on fire, and he at once raised the alarm. The damage amounted to £1500.

The Sheriff said that he was of opinion that if a man lit a match on an autumn night in dry weather in another person's stackyard and so caused fire, he was guilty of careless, culpable, and reckless fireraising. He modified the fine to one of £5, with the alternative of eight days' imprisonment.

TWICE A PRISONER OF WAR.

Hamilton Officer's Hard Luck.

Hamilton, Saturday.

News has reached Hamilton that Lieutenant-Colonel H. C. D. Rankin, R.A.M.C., commanding a field ambulance in France, has been captured by the Germans while working with his unit and actually engaged in dressing a wounded man.

Lieutenant-Colonel Rankin is now a prisoner at Karlsruhe. It is interesting to note that this is his second experience as a prisoner of war. On September 1, 1914, after the retreat from Mons, he was captured in exactly similar circumstances.

On that occasion he was looking after the wounded at the front, and was then taken to the German Field Hospital, where he attended the British wounded until the French came up from the battle of the Marne, drove off the enemy, and left him and his wounded free.

Colonel Rankin was mentioned in Sir Douglas Haig's despatches, and has been also recommended for the D.S.O. He is a son of Mr H. C. D. Rankin, formerly of Bridesdale Street, Hamilton.

FIFE MINERS AND POLITICS.

Dunfermline, Saturday Night.

Political affairs in the light of the reconstituted Parliamentary area engaged the attention of the delegates who attended the monthly meeting to-day of the Executive Board of the Fife, Kinross and Clackmannanshire Miners' Association.

It was reported that the Scottish Miners' National Union Executive had recommended that Mr Adamson, M.P., chairman of the Parliamentary Labour Party, should stand for his old constituency of West Fife. On the motion of Mr Sam Hynds, seconded by Mr John Leslie, Cowdenbeath, the Board unanimously endorsed the finding of the Scottish Executive, and agreed to place before the other Labour forces in the constituency a recommendation to that effect.

Mr Adamson thanked the Executive for the unanimous vote of confidence, and declined that during the seven years he had represented West Fife he had done his best, both politically and industrially, for the class to which he belonged, while, in the new constituency, a large number of the old constituents in the burghs of Cowdenbeath, Lochgelly, Buckhaven, and Leven were cut off, he felt that the West Fife seat would be the one in which he could best represent the Labour community generally.

During the discussion it was pointed out that arrangements had been practically completed for running a Labour candidate for Dunfermline Burghs.

It was stated that Mr Arthur Ponsonby, the pacifist, would be at least one opponent in the event of his adoption as candidate, which is highly improbable.

INCREASE OF £75 A YEAR

GRANTED SCOTTISH MINE MANAGERS.

MINIMUM SALARY NOT CONCEDED.

A largely attended meeting of the Scottish Mine Managers' Association was held to-night in the Christian Institute, Glasgow, the President, Mr William Stevenson, Cleland, presiding.

There was submitted to the meeting the proposal made by Mr Baird on behalf of the Coal Owners' Association to the law agents of the Mine Managers' Association. This proposal was to the effect that the coal owners would agree to increase the salaries of all mine managers by at least £75 per annum upon the terms set out in Mr Baird's circular to the coal owners dated 15th November, 1917.

The proposal was considered and discussed, and the meeting resolved.—

(1) That the Association expressly regret that the coal owners have not conceded the principle of a minimum salary to mine managers.

(2) That while the Association do not consider that the proposed increase in salary is adequate, they feel that it would be unpatriotic in the present crisis in national affairs to press their contentions to the point of a rupture of the amicable relations between the owners and managers, and that accordingly they should accept the terms proposed by the coal owners.

(3) That the Association express their thanks to the coal owners for the consideration which they have given to the claims of the managers, and their hope that the cordial relations which had existed between the managers and owners would continue, and that the law agents of the Association be instructed to intimate a copy of this resolution to Mr Baird on behalf of the coal owners.

COVE MILITARY MEDALLIST.

Corporal John A. A. Skelly, Royal Engineers, who has gained the Military Medal, is a native of Cove, and twenty-six years of age. In civil life he was employed as a plumber at Kilcreggan. His heroism has been tangibly recognised by the local Town

FOR THE CHRISTMAS DUMPLING.

PILLOW-SLIPS FILLED WITH CURRANTS.

Glasgow, Saturday.

On observing a man leaving Dalmarnock Road Goods Station with a suspiciously bulging pillow-slip over his shoulder, two plain-clothes constables on the night of 19th December decided to investigate the contents of the bag. They prevailed upon the bearer to let them look into the interior and found their suspicions justified, as it contained nineteen lbs. of currants. Thereafter they visited the man's house and found there another seventeen lbs. of currants.

Doubtless conjecturing that even if the possessor of the pillow-slips did cultivate an allotment there was no shadow of probability that he had grown the currants there, the two constables pursued their inquiries further. These revealed the fact that a train which had arrived at Dalmarnock Station carried 384 boxes of currants and raisins from Liverpool. The engine of the train was then searched, and two parcels of raisins were found, and in a bothy two boxes of raisins and one of currants, both of which had been broken open, were discovered.

On the following day two detectives visited the house of a signalman named Robert Durie and found his wife in the act of taking an Xmas dumpling from the fire. The floor was littered with currants, which had evidently fallen from a box of 10 lb. of currants which was found in the house.

As a result of the trail of discovery arising from the constables having had their curiosity aroused by the spectacle of the pillow-slip bearer—like the celebrated ploughman "homeward wending his weary way" after a not altogether "fruitless" day—at the Eastern Police Court this morning, John Moffat, brakesman, the man with the pillow-slip, pleaded guilty to having stolen four boxes of currants and raisins, and was fiened £2 or 14 days. A lad engaged as fireman on the train was put on probation.

Robert Durie, signalman, admitted an alternative charge of stealing or resetting 10 lbs. of currants, and was fined £2 or 14 days. The charges against two other railway employees were dismissed.

MOTHERWELL'S "ARTFUL DODGER."

Youthful Pickpocket Put Away.

Motherwell, Saturday.

A youthful pickpocket came before Bailie Paterson this morning at a Juvenile Court.

The lad, John Agnew, ten years of age, residing in Roman Road, was put on probation a month ago. His probation was not up when he came before the Bailie this morning charged with having on Saturday, 15th December, stolen a purse containing 2s in money from a person at a local butter shop. On the same day, in a confectioner's shop, he stole a pocket-book containing letters.

Questioned by the Magistrate, accused's father said that the lad could not be trusted.

Bailie Paterson said the boy would be sent to an industrial school until he attained the age of sixteen.

SEQUEL TO GLASGOW BURGLARIES.

POLICE MAKE BIG HAUL OF STOLEN SILVER-PLATE.

Glasgow, Saturday Night.

Queen's Park Division of Glasgow Police to-day made one of the biggest captures of stolen jewellery, cutlery, &c., which has been recovered in the city for a long time. The articles, which await claimants, are lying in the detective room of that police office, which has accordingly more the appearance of a jeweller's establishment than that usually pertaining to a police department.

The recovery of the goods was the result of inquiries into a recent case of housebreaking and theft in Pollokshields. A gold bangle, gold rings, and other articles of value were recovered in the East End of the city, and further investigations led to the seizure of a large quantity of valuable silver plate, this including biscuit barrels, silver salvers, cream jugs, knives and forks, a liquor case, &c., &c.

In connection with the affair a well dressed young man, who was apprehended some time ago and is awaiting his trial on a charge of breaking into a shop in the central part of the city, is further suspected of being concerned in burglaries in the Northern and Eastern districts of Glasgow, as well as in Pollokshields.

The value of the goods now recovered amounts to several hundred pounds.

BLAZING MOTOR ON KILSYTH ROAD.

CAR REDUCED TO CHARRED MASS.

Kilsyth, Saturday Night.

There was an exciting scene to-night on the main road at Kelvinbridge, which marks the boundary between Dumbartonshire and Stirlingshire, when one of Mr Marshall's passenger motors, which plys between Kilsyth and Croy, suddenly burst into flames.

The passengers and driver quickly got clear of the blazing vehicle.

The flames shot up to a great height, and were seen from a considerable distance away.

It was hopeless to try to save the car, which in a short time was reduced to a charred mass of metal.

SEAFORTH HERO'S D.C.M.

GALLANT ATTACK ON ENEMY POSITION.

Inverness, Saturday Night.

The conspicuous bravery shown by Sergeant Donald Gray, Seaforth Highlanders, one of Inverness' best-known football players, and for which he was awarded the D.C.M., and also a bar to the medal, was referred to at a function at which he was honoured by his football confreres and others to-day. He was presented by Treasurer M'Donald with a purse of money.

Sergeant Gray started out with twenty men who were ordered to take a machine-gun emplacement. Before they had gone far fifteen comrades had fallen, but that did not deter Sergeant Gray and the other five from advancing. After a fight they not only captured the emplacement, but took no fewer than thirty-five German prisoners. For this he was awarded the D.C.M.

Later Sergeant Gray's company was ordered to attack a strong German position. After all the officers had been knocked out Sergeant Gray took command, captured the German position, and consolidated it. He was awarded the bar to his medal for this gallant act.

SEPARATION ACTION AT AIRDRIE.

Airdrie, Saturday.

Sheriff Lee gave judgment to-day in the action for separation and aliment by Mrs Antonio Maria Cozar or Humphries, 29 Globe Park, Inverkeithing, against her husband, Joseph Humphries, platelayer, M'Cann's Buildings, 34 Calder Road, Mossend.

The parties were married at Gibraltar in August, 1902, pursuer being a Spaniard. There are three surviving children of the marriage, aged thirteen, eleven, and five.

The Sheriff finds that for some time defender has been addicted to drink, and has been guilty of gross cruelty towards the pursuer. He had been several times convicted in the Sheriff Court at Airdrie of wife assault, the last occasion being in July last, when he seized her by the throat and struck her with his fist on the face and body.

His Lordship ordains defender to separate himself from his wife "a mensa et thoro" in all time coming, and finds his wife entitled to custody of the three children. Pursuer gets decree for 15s per week of aliment for herself and 5s per week for each of the children.

SUCCESSFUL SALE OF WORK AT EAGLESHAM.

Clarkston, Saturday Night.

Mrs Angus Gilmour, of Eaglesham House, opened a Sale of Work under the auspices of Eaglesham Parish Church this afternoon. The sale, which was on behalf of war funds, was largely patronised, the drawings amounting to £250. Miss Jeannie Gemmell presented a beautiful bouquet to Mrs Gilmour.

After the sale the minister, the Rev. D. Langlands Seath, presided at a concert in the Union Hall, which was packed. The following took part:—Miss M. Chugg, Miss N. Vallance, Miss A. Lyon, Miss E. Mossman, Miss H. Warrick, Mlles. Bandot, Mr J. Perston, Mr M'Naught, and Mr A. M'Ewan.

The employees of the Caledonian Railway Workshops, St. Rollox, allocated £296 to various charities.

WIFE'S STRANGE LETTER

TO SOLDIER-HUSBAND.

COUSIN NAMED AS CO-DEFENDER.

Edinburgh, Saturday.

Lord Anderson heard a remarkable statement in evidence in an action for divorce, to-day, by Wm. N. Johnston, B.E.F., France, against Janet Smith Allan or Johnston, 11a Leslie Place, Stockbridge, Edinburgh, and Robert Andrew Fair Pryde, 60 Westfield Park, Eskbank, Dalkeith, co-defender. Pursuer is on active service, and his evidence was taken on commission.

Pursuer's sister stated that she was present at the marriage in June, 1905. The co-defender came down to see them on several occasions with the defender. Co-defender was defender's cousin. Witness thought that it was not right that defender should go so much about with him, and asked her not to come to see her with him. Her brother came to Edinburgh in January, 1916. He afterwards showed witness a letter in which defender said he would not be welcomed at her mother's house, and practically asked him not to go there. That day she went to the Carnival and saw the defender and co-defender there together. In the evening her brother wrote defender and asked her to meet him. They met several times, and she saw him off at the station.

About the beginning of September she heard the defender had had a child. Her brother showed her a letter he had received from defender in which she admitted being unfaithful. "I have given birth to a son, so you see I am doing my duty for my King and Country, for they want boys for the Army."

Lord Anderson granted decree as craved.

PREFERRED THE HOUSE-KEEPER.

On the ground of infidelity with his housekeeper, Jane Steele or Waldie, 213 Leith Walk, Edinburgh, was to-day granted decree of divorce from her husband, John Waldie, Golfdrum Street, Dunfermline. Annie M'Gregor, residing with John Waldie at Golfdrum Street, Dunfermline, was called as co-defender.

Pursuer stated that she was married in November, 1903. Her husband was a dairyman at that time. They resided at 5 Comiston Place after the marriage for some years. Her husband was with his father in business, but about two years after the marriage he went into business on his own account at Morningside Drive. There were four children of the marriage alive.

About the month of April, 1913, her husband engaged as housekeeper the co-defender, as pursuer was then employed in the shop. In the spring of 1913 co-defender gave birth to a child, and some time afterwards told witness that she had misconducted herself with her husband. Pursuer spoke to her husband, and he told her to mind her own business.

Pursuer left her husband in March, 1915, about eighteen months after she came to know that he was the father of co-defender's child. Before she left the house she discovered a bundle of letters in her husband's handwriting addressed to the co-defender.

After further evidence, decree, with aliment at the rate of 5s per week, was granted.

STRANRAER SOLICITOR'S CONFESSION.

Evidence was heard in an undefended action for divorce by Jessie Bruce Cumming or M'Geoch, who was resident when the action was called at the New Waverley Hotel, Edinburgh, against Peter M'Geoch, formerly solicitor in Stranraer and Newton-Stewart, now a second-lieutenant in the army.

The pursuer (29) said she was married at St Mary's R.C. Cathedral, Edinburgh, in November, 1910. They took up house at Portpatrick, and one child was born of the marriage. In December, 1914, he joined the army. When he returned home on leave in August, 1916, there was a marked change in his demeanour. In September last pursuer determined not to live with him any more, and he confessed to having committed misconduct when he was under the influence of drink. He also stated in a letter that it was "drink and drink alone" which had led to their estrangement. He subsequently pleaded with her to drop the proceedings, but she refused.

Decree of divorce was granted by Lord Anderson, with custody of the child to the pursuer and aliment of £60 per annum.

MILITARY MEDAL FOR BOTHWELL MINER.

Sergt. David Hunter, Royal Engineers, formerly of the A. and S.H., who has been awarded the Military Medal, was formerly in the army. Before rejoining he was engaged as a miner in Bothwell Park Colliery.

GLASGOW'S BUSY CHRISTMASTIDE.

Glasgow, Saturday Night.

There was a Christmassy aspect about Glasgow to-night. Argyle Street, always crowded of a Saturday, was thronged with people. The large drapery warehouses were open till nine o'clock, and the toy bazaars formed the great attraction. From the street barrows a brisk trade was done in holly and mistletoe.

The rush at the post offices started in the afternoon. At the General Post Office the staff at the parcels counter were kept hard at work till a late hour, the office being open for the receiving of parcels for the sale of stamps till ten o'clock.

LATEST NEWS

IN A NUTSHELL.

FROM ALL PARTS OF SCOTLAND.

BY WIRE AND 'PHONE.

For the theft of two pounds of sugar from a lorry Ann Gallacher or M'Donald was fined 30s at Greenock.

By means of a flag day in Aberdeen yesterday a sum of about £300 was collected on behalf of King George's Fund for Sailors.

New Cumnock Angling Association held a fancy dress ball in the Town Hall, when upwards of £50 was raised for local war funds.

For the week ending 20th December a sum of £185 was realised by the sale of War Comforts Tickets on the Glasgow Tramways.

Mr Arthur Henderson, M.P., left Glasgow last night by the London train. His visit was of short duration, as he only arrived in the city on Friday.

The frost was so severe at the coast, yesterday, that a portion of the head of the Holy Loch between Ardnadam and Sandbank was covered with ice.

At a bazaar promoted by the pupils of Queen's Park Academy, Glasgow, yesterday the drawings amounted to £34 10s, the whole of which goes to the Red Cross.

About 5000 acres of additional old grass land is to be broken up in East Lothian, and it is estimated that the seed required will amount to at least 3000 quarters.

Lieutenant Ross Taylor Haddow, R.F.A., son of Mr James Haddow, Springbank, Falkirk, has been awarded the Military Cross. He was the first Boy Scout enrolled at Falkirk.

The Board of Trade has agreed to invite, with the consent of the Corporation, Mr James Dalrymple, Glasgow's tramway manager, to join the National Tramways Committee.

News was received at Banknock, yesterday, that Pte. James Reynolds, K.O.S.B., had died from cholera at Basra. Pte. Reynolds, who was married, was well known in the district.

A collection of scrap metal was taken in Kilmarnock, and 24 carts were employed yesterday going through the different streets. The material secured will be sent to munition factories.

William Jackson, baker, Duntreath Terrace, Kilsyth, has died suddenly. Feeling rather queer he had risen to leave the room when he collapsed and expired. He had burst a blood vessel.

Second-Lieutenant J. C. Dabbs, Suffolk Regiment, son of Mr and Mrs Dabbs, 20 Main Street, Coatbridge, who a few days ago was reported missing, has informed his parents that he is a prisoner of war.

The Ayr Town Council have agreed to oppose the application of the Ayrshire Food Production Committee to have the old racecourse, now an eighteen-holes municipal golf course, laid down to crop in 1918.

Speaking at a U.F. Church office-bearers' conference in Edinburgh yesterday the Rev. Dr W. M. Macgregor complained that in many houses the whole standard of life was one in which religion was a sort of trimming at best.

Private James White, Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, Military Medallist, Falkirk, was yesterday presented with a gold watch and pocket book from his former employees and fellow-workers at Etna Foundry, Falkirk.

Thomas Carruthers, 67 years of age, a cork cutter, was conveyed in the ambulance waggon to Glasgow Royal Infirmary yesterday suffering from injuries to the right leg through having fallen on the icy ground at Wester Mavisbank, Airdrie.

Through the medium of Bonnybridge Heroes' Fund, Corporal M'Callum, Royal West Kents, was presented with a gold watch from the people of Bonnybridge and district in recognition of his having gained the military medal and bar.

Johnstone's new Y.M.C.A. Rooms at High Street were formerly opened yesterday, Mrs W. P. Lang, wife of the Provost, performing the opening ceremony. Others who took part were Col. Greig, M.P. for West Renfrewshire, and Sir Andrew Pettigrew.

It is intimated that Mr and Mrs Robert Clark, The Hollies, Kirn, have given a donation of £700 to Duncon and District Cottage Hospital, for the purpose of extending the present building, in commemoration of their diamond wedding, which they celebrated this year.

Mr and Mrs John Curran, Woodside, Minnigaff, Newton-Stewart, on the occasion of their golden wedding were, on behalf of the family and friends, presented by Rev. Father Vignoles with a well-filled purse of treasury notes, along with other suitable gifts. The aged couple have two sons on active service.

Mr and Mrs William Ewing Gilmour, of Woodbank, Alexandria, have received official intimation that their only son, Capt. Alan Gilmour, of the Lovat Scouts, has died from wounds at Salonika. Before the war he was engaged in the United Turkey Red Company's business at Alexandria.

Sergt. John Naismith, R.A.M.C., has been presented with a wristlet watch and a shaving outfit, together with wallet of War Savings Certificates for his wife, in recognition of his having gained the Military Medal with bar. The gifts were from the employees of the Niddrie and Benhar Colliery, in which the gallant soldier was a miner.

In Leith Council Chamers yesterday Provost Lindsay, at the request of the Ministry of Shipping, presented Captain Colin Macdonald, at present master of the steamer Katanza, and formerly master of the steamer Cratloe, with a silver cup awarded by the King of Norway in recognition of his services in rescuing the master and crew (twenty-two all told) of a torpedoed Norwegian ship.

An Eerie Expedition in No Man's Land.

SECOND-LIEUT. BILLIE IMPETT & HIS ORDERLY

THEIR EXPLOITS WITH "THE STICKERS" ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

By CAPTAIN EUSTACE AINSWORTH.

Officer washes himself in the snow on the Western Front.

This week the author relates an exciting exploit experienced by Billie Impett and his men amongst the wire in No Man's Land in the vicinity of Ypres, resulting in the complete surprise and capture of a party of Huns, who, losing their way in the mist, actually commenced to repair the British wire. The author also tells of a unique episode whilst Billie was at a rest billet.

WE are variously informed that barbed wire was invented by a Mr J. F. Glidden in 1876, and by the devil in a moment of peculiar devilment at a date unknown, and certainly it has been productive of deep resentment ever since, both on the part of cattle and men, but on occasion it has offered opportunity for intelligence and, at lease once, of mirth.

What follows was not the result of absolute folly. A mistake was made by the Hun on a particularly dark and misty night, and he was still further deceived by the fact that a change in British wire-construction had made it to all appearance similar to his own, but for a few minutes the spectacle was seen of the highly-organised German Army raising suppressed laughter in the mist. One of the sappers did actually laugh outright, but as two men of more experience pushed his face into the mud he ceased with a slight gurgle.

The German, as in many other military matters, had studied wire for years, and had adopted a method which was an improvement on the usual thing. Previous to 1914, when everyone thought that war was just a question of being in the right and having enough first-class men to back you up, wire was strung on wooden posts driven into the ground, and to those primitive erections the wire, of course, had to be attached somehow. That was good enough for any nation who did not think that she was likely to be seriously engaged; but to Germany, who had apparently got a ghastly war down on her list of early fixtures, the old-fashioned wooden stumps seemed clumsy, so that she designed, and manufactured in great quantities, the "screw-picket."

This is made of half-inch round iron with three loops for attachment, and has a corkscrew end, so that it can be worked silently into the ground, by a bar slipped through one of the loops. Sooner or later, of course, the Allies got wise to the idea, and Great Britain and the U.S.A. were asked to deliver about five million "pickets, screw, iron" as a first instalment, but long before that their front was studded with wooden posts, so that if a patrol lost its bearings in No Man's Land it would feel the pickets in the dark and act accordingly.

After a while the new pickets arrived, and because in strengthening wire you naturally work on the front side, it soon happened that for a few miles of the British line there were no more wooden stumps adjoining No Man's Land.

A Misty Night Expedition.

To the "Stickers" the screw-pickets had come as a blessing, and as Billie's section filed up the communication trench that young man looked forward to an easy and quick night's work. Just as they got into the front line and began to make inquiries a sentry on the fire-step, gazing over the parapet in the dark, said to his mate, "That our patrol?"

"Couldn't see," the other answered. "ours or theirs; it's too thick."

Billie wondered how on earth they could see anything at all the other side of the wire, and then met the infantry officer in charge.

"Oh, you are going out to patch up our wire, are you. Jolly good of you; can't tell you much, but we have strong patrols out, so have they. We've had eleven casualties sent back already. Your easiest way is up the sap, and then feel your way north. Good luck."

Billie said, "Lead on," and the section groped their way up a sort of imitation trench that ran straight out towards the German line, and then climbed out where the nightly use of the wire patrols had cut an easy way to the surface. Sergt. Armstrong said, "Wire on our left, sir," and Billie told the section to sit down till he found where the repairs were wanted.

"It's very dark," Billie said, "wonder why there are no lights up? All the better for us, of course, and this mist is fine."

"Both sides wiring, sir," Armstrong answered, "and both got out covering patrols."

"Of course, that's it. Well, come along."

A Melee Amongst the Wire.

Now, as far as could subsequently be gathered, what actually happened was that two hostile patrols met quite unexpectedly, and were actually intermingled in the mist before the situation was realised, and that while the melee was in progress individuals feeling each other for identification and stabbing with the bayonet on the first shadow of certainty, a German wiring party blundered along, and the noise of the pickets as they dropped drew Billie's attention.

Then a wounded British private bumped into Armstrong, tried to stab him, and sat down in the mud, so that in half a minute Billie had the position clearly fixed in his mind. The British patrol was going north, while the Hun patrol, evidently followed by a German wiring party, was trekking south, when they had all collided. So Billie said, "Bring the section up here and detail some one to get this man home."

No. 4 Section came stealing up the wire in single file with fixed bayonets, and Billie led them north through the mist till he was sure he was in the rear of the hostile wiring party, east till he knew by the sound that he was far enough into No Man's Land, then south again till he bumped into some one whom he shot.

The Huns, who you must remember were fighting individually in little groups, facing now this way and now that, probably never realised that they were either outnumbered or attacked in the rear, so that the whole thing might well have ended in a sort of scattered, and still further scattering, collection of duels, had not Armstrong been Scottish.

"It's no use, sir," he said. "We're a wiring party. There isn't a man in the section has a compass, and if they get separated they are as likely to go east as west."

Billie did not like the idea, but knew it was sound. "All right," he said, "let's pull out and get on with our work."

Armstrong blew two very short notes on his whistle, and out of the mist, in ones and twos, the sappers grouped round, and whether by reason of the whistle or not the fight stopped.

Then as the section picked its way back to work, 369 Sapper Bellis, who was Billie's orderly, touched him on the shoulder, and said, "You're going the wrong way, sir."

Billie took out his compass, whose luminous face told him that Bellis was right, "Thanks very much," and walked to the other end of the line. As Armstrong said afterwards, anyone might have made the same mistake, but Billie felt horribly ashamed of himself and wondered if there was any real need to put it in his report. Finally he decided that he would tell Captain Hoyle personally so that Bellis should have the credit without he himself getting strafed.

A Big Surprise.

Just as he had come to this conclusion a murmur of feet and modulated voices, the clink of iron pickets, and the unmistakable sound of drums of barbed wire revolving on handspikes as the length was paid out, came distinctly from the front, and one after the other the section dropped to the ground and lay still. Billie wormed his way back to Armstrong, and showed the compass, while Bellis, unnoticed, slipped off into the mist.

"What do you make of it?" he asked quietly.

Armstrong looked at the finger pointing straight to their right, turned the compass round to make sure that all was free, and said, "I don't know, sir, but I'll go and look."

Now Billie had made one mistake that night and had his careful foot foremost, so he said, "We'll wait a bit. Something may happen that will tell us something."

Then after a few minutes Armstrong pulled his rifle forward and said, "Who's that?" and Sapper Bellis said "Me."

"They're 'Uns, sir, mendin' our wire," he explained.

Billie said, "Come and lie here," while a sort of silly ripple ran down the line of sappers as a child will squirm with glee.

"Are you sure?" Billie asked.

Bellis could not bet with an officer, but he offered Sergeant Armstrong fifteen francs to a ration biscuit and proposed that they should move on a bit and settle the matter; on the other hand, Sergeant Armstrong really did not feel that he could bet with a sapper, besides which Bellis was generally right, while Armstrong, as I have said, was Scottish.

"It must be our line," Billie said, looking at his compass again, and Bellis said—"It's our line all right, sir, the sap as we came through isn't thirty yards off."

It really was a puzzle to know what was best to do, but Billie knew that he must make certain, and not depend on the report of a subordinate, so he said, "Show me, Bellis," and went carefully forward. Twenty yards on a pile of screw pickets thrown down on the ground stopped them, and Bellis took Billie's hand in the dark, guided it to the corkscrew end, which in the German pattern is noticeably different, and Billie patted him on the shoulder. That decided who the wiring party were. Then Bellis led off south and Billie found himself on the steep edge of the sap he had left a short hour before. That settled the other point, and they went back to the section, where, with Sergeant Armstrong, surrounded by the whole of the fourth section, who had foot by foot crawled up in the dark, he talked the thing over in whispers.

"A Council of War" and the Result.

Billie, of course, was for falling on the Huns with the bayonet, for he was young, and wiping them out to the last man, but he knew there was no hurry, and knew also, which was worth a fortune, that he did not know everything, and as those close to heard the difference of opinion, word seemed to pass in some subtle way to different "old timers," till what was perhaps the most informal Council of War ever held debated the question in the mist.

It would be nice to tell of that debate in whispers, of acknowledged authority from some unseen sapper taking equal weight with the opinion of a commissioned officer, whilst Sergeant Armstrong withdrew a suggestion without reserve before the criticism of a lance-corporal; but without an intimate knowledge of the seven characters, who alone spoke out of thirty-eight men present, it would appear incredible. The gist of it, however, was that it was an infantry job, and Billie, agreeing, sent Armstrong into the front line to report, and, turning north, led No. 4 Section away up the wire till they could get clear of the Huns and carry out orders, which were "to examine and make good damage to front line wire in the length of the sector."

What followed, the noiseless and bloodless capture of over sixty Huns, was not mentioned in official despatches, because to send out a party of men, or a submarine, and never either to see or hear of it again, is unnerving to its successors. But whereas it had been expected that at least two nights' work would be required, Billie was officially informed that "owing to certain circumstances, the fourth section of the Nth. Field Company, R.E., will regard themselves as off duty for twenty-four hours."

ON REST.

As everyone knows, all troops on both sides in so intense a war as this take "rests" as occasion offers, marching back a matter of perhaps ten miles, where buttons are polished once more, horses are carefully touched up, gear repaired, and every form of gentle training indulged in which differs most from the work of the line.

Now and then a unit will strike a really restful spot, where little is damaged, and all the farmhouses sell Valenciennes lace, to be bartered for in imperfect French; where the Mayor is also the proprietor of the only estaminet, and the priest a sport. When this happens love is made to Higher Command, so that when the next rest comes round it shall be spent at the same heavenly spot.

On this occasion the result of some weeks of courting had been successful, and when Captain Hoyle, as O.C. Transport, was given the map reference of their rest billet and announced it to the mess, even the partial failure of certain luxuries seemed as nothing, and the last joined subaltern, Carstairs, who had replaced Jevons, killed in action, failed for the moment to follow the general delight. He was new to rest areas. Consequently, when next day the company climbed a hill on which a monastery stood up into the sky he could not quite understand the general feeling of hilarity that rippled down the column.

After tea Billie Impett, who had taken a liking to Second-Lieutenant Carstairs, suggested that they should go for a walk, and as all roads centred on the monastery, they went round the outer wall and finally settled for a smoke at the foot of a windmill that had known and survived the open fighting of the early war.

Then a one-armed monk came to them on his way to the little cemetery, and at the sight of Billie, professed to be tired, and sat down. They were old friends, because on a previous rest they had discovered a mutual love of gardening.

"Is all well over there, Monsieur?" the old man said, waving his hand to the east.

"And who is your friend?"

"All is well," Billie answered; "by and by we shall be as fine as the French. Our fellows were always good, the French are both good and clever. We are learning. This is my friend, Second-Lieutenant Carstairs."

"He is fortunate," the old man said gravely. "Monsieur must understand that such as I live a little apart. Sometimes the aeroplanes sail over and I gaze upon them thinking that they are as we, detached. They see the world below, they hear nothing; they are detached. They see more than you and I can see, Monsieur, and perhaps, who knows, we who live our life up here can see sometimes that to which others are blind. Monsieur, your friend is fortunate," and the old fellow bowed to Carstairs to make sure that there should be no mistake.

Billie felt the usual awkwardness of the Britisher at a compliment, and knocked his pipe out on his boot.

Then Carstairs, who, coming from Northumberland, was both curious and straightforward, asked the monk if he had been there when the German cavalry were driven back, and the two little cemeteries opened a hundred yards away; and asked him, too, how and when he had lost his arm.

The Monk's Story.

The old man, unaccustomed to very direct questions, hesitated, looked Carstairs over with great deliberation, as an eagle would sum up the ground below, and then after quite a pause said, "When war broke out, M'sieur, all our young men joined the regiments to which they belonged, and we old ones remained. There was work to be done The Germans came through here on a Sunday and passed beyond. They seized our food and many stores, but there was no murder. In those days M'sieur will understand they were winning. On a grand scale they were beaten as we know, but everywhere locally they were winning and almost unopposed. They rode through, cavalry and horse artillery, and we hid the things that they had overlooked. That, Monsieur, was on Sunday."

Billie thought he was never going to start again, and looked at Carstairs. "When did they come back?" Carstairs asked.

"On Thursday, M'sieur," the monk answered. "On Thursday they came back, and when our women saw them they laughed. Yes, M'sieur, they stood at their doors and laughed, for they did not know the Bosche."

Rode Over a Child.

From where they sat Billie turned his glasses on the distant town of Bailleul and tried to pick up the quaint Town Hall. He knew that to hurry a story of this kind was fatal. After a few minutes the old man went on:—

"There were three officers riding at the head of the column, M'sieur; I noticed them, for it is our habit for such officers when in retreat to bring up the rear; and I noticed that, being better horsed than their troopers, they were going too fast, for I was at Mars-la-tour in 1870 and know these things. I saw, too, that they were angered; but still our women laughed. Then the leading officer, a lieutenant, for so they were reduced, rode over a child, who was crossing the street to get back to his mother, and the village, as they saw his body kicked from side to side by the horses that followed, shouted out, and a Bosche fired into the crowd."

Carstairs looked at Billie, who frowned for silence. After a minute the old man went on:—

"The little child, Messieurs, was the son of Benoit, the cobbler, a good man and father, but crippled, and he ran out among the horses to save his son."

Billie picked up his glasses again.

"He is buried across there, Messieurs, in the civil cemetery," the monk went on, "and rests in peace."

It was getting dusk, and with a dark patch of cloud to eastward the shrapnel showed like winking street lamps over a length of twenty miles of line. The old man got to his feet and looked as if he meant to say good-night.

"And you, father?" Billie said quietly.

"Oh, as for me, Monsieur, that was an accident."

"You have forgiven it?" Carstairs said.

"It is not for me to forgive, Monsieur, or to blame. The good God makes different men, as He makes different beasts. He makes the tiger and the wolf, which it is the duty of all men to destroy for the sake of our women and children; and he has made the Bosche for his own good ends. It is your duty, Messieurs, to destroy the Bosche, as it is mine to be content and praise God."

Carstairs, who was getting impatient, said, "Good, but will you tell us how you lost your arm?"

Billie looked at the monk, nodded, and the old man went on. To Carstairs, as a stranger, he would have said no more.

"It was this way, Messieurs," he said, sitting down again. "The Bosche came up here because they were thoughtless, but your cavalry rode round the foot of the hill, and even before the last of the Bosches had passed the monastery there were outcries, and those same officers galloped back, so that the column was confused."

Billie rubbed his hand and grinned. "Cut 'em off," he said to Carstairs. "That's where Spencer and Watson got their D.S.O.s. They were in that bunch."

"There was great confusion, Messieurs," the monk went on, "because the Bosche knew not the roads whereby they could have gone south or north, and as they wavered your guns opened, and they became demented. Then they burst the gates of our monastery, and it took them in, sinners, as it had taken in saints; and it grew dark.

"I saw your Commandant himself that night, and asked him what he would do, for the Bosche had sanctuary. Your Commandant laughed, Messieurs, and said, 'How much food have you there?' I told him 'Little enough.' 'Good,' he said; 'I will wait till to-morrow noon.' Then I went back and saw the Bosche officers. They asked for food, saying that their supplies had been captured the day before, and they were starving, and all the while the British and their Indian troops crept up the hill and blocked the roads. That, Messieurs, was on Thursday

The Widow's Fate.

"On Friday morning at daybreak I was in the road by the little shrine that Monsieur knows, and there came to me the widow Benoit. She was beside herself, and the hair that should have been coiled was down her back, and in her hands she held a pistol. 'They have killed my son and husband,' she said, 'it is not good that I should live.' Then she passed the pistol to me, saying, 'I do not understand; show me!'"

The old man placed his finger tips together and looked down at his shoes.

"I was sad, Messieurs, for I knew that life in this world held nothing more for the widow Benoit, and it is hard sometimes to insist on the right. So I took her to the top of the hill where the windmill stands that she might be detached and view the ground from above, if only for an hour. That is what you call a proportion, is it not so?"

Billie said, "That's right," the man, bowing his head in thanks.

"M'sieur knows the far side where the shells struck in 1914 those days the gap that looks but small, a ragged hole above and we stood there that I may the plain below.

"I said I was sad, Messieurs seemed that for another thirty widow was to be still sadder, but young, and nowhere there light. Yet I know, Messieurs there is a God in Heaven, that not take her life. So we stood in the doorway, and I spoke He Who sees and knows all without which I should fail.

"Then, as I thought for stones of the mill broke through over the door and fell on us as we were buried."

"Must have been shaken to Carstairs said in a practical seen the same thing with guns Line."

The old man shifted a little ment of so prosaic an explanation speaking to Billie, went on:—

"We buried the widow B husband, and my arm, which broken, hung down by my side

"At noon the next day your came to the monastery with officer and two soldiers, and I message to the Bosche. Then had the order sounded to fall tried to charge out into the horses could not go. They were Messieurs. So the Bosche their men to charge on foot, and out through the broken gates rendered here and there as they escape. But the officers they to the library that M'sieur drank wine, so that in an hour Commandant came in they called it an 'incident.'"

"And your arm, father?" Billie "Was it not attended to? Did tell our Commandant? Did he

The old man blushed and he

"There were many wounded hastily, "and few doctors. For Monsieur will understand, it was sible for such small things to be Then it was too late and—I am, Messieurs. That is all."

"Bad luck," Carstairs said.

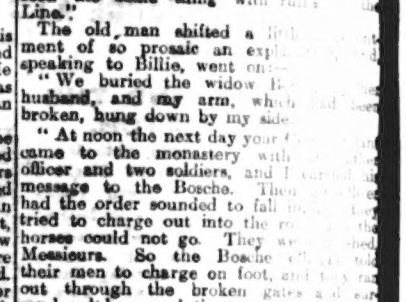
"Pardon, M'sieur," the answered. "It is not luck. were right; it is an 'incident,' many. I am an old man, our unhurt, the fighting is far away. gazed east, where star shells pairs. "Look, Messieurs," he lights that rise so quickly and Are they good or evil? Is it they should remain or die?"

Carstairs, who was intensely said, "Well, that depends."

The old man bowed. "M'sieur there is a doubt. That, if Monsieur allow me, is the beginning of God made the Bosche as He made but Messieurs will observe, He care to make the Allies also."

NEXT WEEK

Further exciting episodes of Billy Impett's adventures in Flanders.



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"THE MAN FROM MEXICO" IN GLASGOW

DR. PINO'S "DAY OF JUDGMENT" PAMPHLET.

MORE PACIFIST EXPOSURES.

This week, as the result of our readers' alertness, we are able to give further examples of Pacifist "literature" now being circulated in Scotland. These are but selected specimens from many leaflets and pamphlets which have been forwarded to us from widely separated parts of the country. The methods of distribution of these objectionable sheets are as varied as is the character of their contents. In the case of a remarkable pamphlet, entitled, "The Day of Judgment," published in Glasgow by a Mexican, the distribution appears to be conducted on the "cut-and-run" principle.

A number of cases of suspected enemy influences at work in our midst are under investigation, thanks to information received. We have to thank our readers for their continued co-operation, and shall be glad to have further information relating to anti-British activities in whatever guise they may present themselves, and also copies of Pacifist or pro-German leaflets.

The enclosed pamphlet was pushed under my door this afternoon, and the individual who did so promptly made off before anyone could speak to him. I have marked passages which are evidently intended to appeal to ignorant or cowardly people. The printers should be able to say who pays them, and may know who is responible for this absurd but dangerous booklet.

Such was the letter sent to "The Post Sunday Special" the other day by a lady resident in the Ibrox district.

A "Post" representative made inquiries, and discovered that the author of the pamphlet is an unnaturalised alien known as Dr George D. Pino. He is a Mexican, practising as a medical doctor in Govan. His consulting rooms are at 12 Shaw Street, and his house is at 3 Park Terrace. It is not so long since he graduated as a medical man after a University course.

Now, on the face of things, it seems rather strange that this man from Mexico, who opens his discourse with "Brethren, friends, and countrymen," should be inflicting upon the citizens of Glasgow at this particular time such a weird and depressing publication as this pamphlet undoubtedly is. He does not, of course, put his name to it, And we do not wonder.

An Absurd and Dangerous Production.

A perusal of the pamphlet is calculated to give one the creeps. It teems with predictions of the most terrifying nature, and is certainly a very absurd production. Even so, it is dangerous, for it makes clear that the author is an out-and-out pacifist, and that the "warring nations are God's enemies."

From out the maze of idiotically-interpreted Biblical quotations and the condemnations levelled against humanity at large, the Kings and the Governments, the Churches, the rich, and even the poor, one gathers that the only good and worthy things now in existence are the author and his cronies, who must assuredly be included, as he coyly puts it, among "the few saints who now in this time of trouble look up to God."

"No One is Going to Win the War."

But Dr Pino goes farther than that, and does not hesitate to assume the prophet's mantle. With great cock-sureness he announces that "no one is going to win the war," that a world-wide revolution must follow the war soon after peace is declared, "with a little bloodshed at home," and that after that anarchy will reign everywhere—that is, "there shall be neither law nor order."

Dr Pino makes no direct call upon our fighting lads to lay down their arms. Nevertheless, his effusion reeks with the doctrines of those who would fain have us believe that should the sanguinary Huns land in this country they would meet them with tracts on the shore instead of making tracks for the nearest possible place of concealment.

He is quite sure that "no one is going to win the war, because God's Word says so," and through eight pages he spits pessimism of the most doleful nature which cannot have anything but a very depressing and disheartening effect upon many people.

Dr Pino Interviewed.

A representative of the "Post Sunday Special" found Dr Pino in his surgery. He is young, alert, keen, with a complexion inclined to be swarthy, and speaks with a distinctly foreign accent.

"About this pamphlet, doctor, will its circulation help us on with the war?" asked the interviewer.

"The war doesn't matter. What matters is the spreading of the truth."

"You call this the truth?" (holding up the pamphlet).

"It is based on the Word of God. When I say the war does not matter I mean that it is immaterial as far as I am concerned. All true Christians are, must be, neutral. God decreed this war to punish the world for its sins, for its selfishness and vice."

Believes in the Millennial Dawn.

"Do you belong to a brotherhood?"

"I belong to the International Students' Bible Society, who believe in the Millennial Dawn—the coming of the time when one will not have to worry about anything."

"You are of foreign origin?"

"I am a Mexican, but have been in Scotland since I was 14, and almost regard myself as a Scotsman."

"Are you naturalised?"

"No. Let me tell you this. Early in the war I offered my services to the army as a doctor, but as I was not naturalised there were difficulties in the way, and the army would not accept of my services. I would not offer myself in this way now. My conversion took place in November of last year."

Enough of Dr Pino and his "Day of Judgment"! He is enjoying hospitality in this country of ours when its own sons are fighting in defence of its shores, and if he cannot repay the privilege with anything better than professions of "neutrality" and doses of the objectionable nostrums served up in this pamphlet, then he should go back to his native Mexico straight away. From all accounts it is a country that is badly in need of doctors just now!

"The Day of Judgment" bears the imprint of Messrs Bell & Bain, Ltd., printers, Glasgow.

A PATRIOTIC GLASGOW SCHOOL.

On Thursday morning "The Post Sunday Special" was informed by a correspondent that on the previous day the children in St George's Road School were "compelled to march to the German National Anthem."

A "Post" representative called upon Mr A. Anderson, M.A., the headmaster, to elicit the facts regarding the incident.

"Ah," he said, "it was the Russian National Anthem that was played. Several of our teachers are off through illness, and on this day a young lady was asked to take the piano who is not in the habit of playing regularly. She picked up the first piece of music that was handy, and it was the Russian National Anthem.

"Some of her colleagues waggishly shook their fists at her, and this, apparently, gave rise to the suspicion among the children that it was the German National Song.

"We have, however, forbidden even the playing of the Russian Anthem, as in the present circumstances we do not know where Russia stands.

"There are no pacifists in this school," concluded Mr Anderson, "no one in St George's Road School wants a premature peace."

GLASGOW AND SEDITION.

WHY IT MUST BE STAMPED OUT.

To the Editor of The Post Sunday Special.

Sir,—Sedition in Glasgow! Ah; what a strange world this is, and what a great pity that the noble city of St Mungo, which has given so much in men and blood and money should be made the headquarters of a pro-German propaganda and have sedition lodging within its portals.

This morning I opened a common-looking envelope addressed to me. It contained a pamphlet headed, "War and the Workers," and full of seditious matter, obviously inspired by pro-Germans. I am not to quote this treasonable stuff, but there is one suggestive line about Russia which clearly indicates the bent of mind of the anti-Britisher who wrote it

The pamphlet bears no trace of its printer or author, but is numbered "8114." Can it be, then, other 8113 people have got copies of this seditious rag sent to them by post?

What Our Soldiers Say.

A recent letter sent to me by a Glasgow soldier in France says:—"I am up to the waist in mud sometimes. It is a hard battle, but we will win. Many thanks for the figures re recruiting in Glasgow you sent me. Glasgow is still one up on other cities. Many Glasgow chaps are here, so it is not so dull after all. We will do our work, no fear."

Thank God for such letters. Whom can I thank for the seditious pamphlet? Let Glasgow find out by taking firm steps in the matter of this penny stamp pamphlet propaganda. Doubtless hundreds, or thousands perhaps, are receiving copies of this "German rag" sent from Glasgow, and who can measure the amount of harm it may do? What thoughts will it bring to the war widow who lost her all in the fight for freedom? Or the father and mother bereaved by war? Or the fatherless boy who is old enough to read but too young to think deeply and weigh the pros and cons of the matter?

Another pamphlet reached a gentleman in the country, posted from Glasgow. It is headed—"Britain as Guilty as Germany."

The gentleman who received this diatribe has three sons fighting. One of them has been wounded once. The youngest of the three sons is a Mons hero.

"We Have a Lot to Pay Back."

An extract from a letter sent by the youngest son in the early days of the war I was permitted to read. It runs—"I can't tell you where I am, father. We got it hot all last month. But I am safe and well. We are sticking it out nobly. Every soldier here is full of determination. We have a lot to pay back, but pay it we will. My country never appeared so dear to me as now. We are ready to go anywhere and do almost anything save to bow to the Huns."

I cannot tell you how to catch the sedition-mongers, but I can suggest a just punishment when you catch them. Hand them over to lads of the above type, who are doing "almost anything" for King and country.

Let no stone be unturned till sedition is stamped out. Let the public know for certain the source of this pamphlet sedition. What "The Post Sunday Special" is doing should be strengthened by the jaw powers of Glasgow. Wake up, St Mungo!—I am, &c.,

W. G. WHYTE.

Pretoria Place, Polmont.

"PEACE AT ANY PRICE" POST CARD.

Insidious Effort to Further Campaign.

"Much to my indignation, I received the enclosed postcard the other morning," writes a Leith lady, "and as it bears the 'mark of the beast,' I forward it to you as another specimen of Pacifist propaganda made in Germany which you are so ably exposing."

We reproduce the message as written on this postcard in the hope that the handwriting may be identified. A perusal of it will convince the reader that the communication is not quite so innocent or so harmless as the opening sentence would seem to indicate. The reference to Russia is significant. On the face of it, the postcard is another evidence of the insidious attempt to spread broadcast throughout Scotland the tenets of that disloyal and unworthy party whose shibboleth is "peace at any price."

Red Cross Clan

"Lord Jesus I implore Thee to bring Mercy & Peace to all our allies & to bless all mankind." Please copy this & send it to some person each day for nine days, beginning on the day you receive this. Please do not break the chain as it was sent from Russia to be sent all over the World. It was said in ancient times that all who passed it on would be free from Calamity & they who tear it will wrestle with misfortune. On the 9th day some great joy will be yours.

4/12/17

ADROIT ARGUMENTS FOR PACIFISM.

ABERDEEN MINISTER'S ASTOUNDING PAMPHLET

From Aberdeen we have received one of the most insinuating—if not subtle—documents in the way of pacifist literature that has yet reached us. It is a pamphlet written by a Congregational minister of Aberdeen—the Rev. J. C. Ormerod, M.A.—under the title "The Church's Message to a Nation at War," and it bears to be the reprint of a paper read before the Aberdeen Congregational Council. Briefly put, the argument of this pamphlet is the astounding one that it is not the Church's vocation to be "the judge and divider over the nations," that it is not, therefore the Church's vocation to help the Allied cause, and that what the Church has to do is to find out the sin common to both Germany and the Allies—and to proclaim it!

"What is the common sin?" asks Mr Ormerod. "Is it covetousness? Are we a materialistic nation? Or is it reliance on force? Does our national history throw any light on that? Have we ever thought of our navy as Germany has thought of its army? Or is it national pride? Is that the sin that lies at the bottom of the present cry to Him for justice, to which He turns a deaf ear?"

Does Mr Ormerod realise that his amazing attitude plainly indicates his belief that our sacred dead have fought and perished on the field of battle because of our national greed, our reliance on force, or our pride in our navy? It is a mischievous suggestion, and one unworthy of the most ignorant or most disloyal individual now resident within these islands.

An Insult to Those Who Have Made Sacrifices.

Nay, more! It is an insult to the memory of those who have made the supreme sacrifice and to the sorrowing loved ones left behind. It is an insult to the intelligence of the flower of our manhood now facing the brutal foe and to those gallant members of the clerical profession who share the dangers and hardships of active service with the forces of the King.

With a logic that is about as clear as mud, Mr Ormerod calmly goes on to declare—"Justice is not Christ's message, and therefore it is not the Church's. But it has a message. For there is a sin common to both (Britain and Germany), however unequally shared it may be. And to find that common sin and to proclaim it . . . . that is the Church's message to its nation at war. This message could be preached in the churches of Germany as well as in this country."

Mr Ormerod certainly possesses a peculiar conception of the Church's message or mission at this juncture, when practically the whole world writhes in agony and sorrow. He wants us to start on a hunt for a "common sin," but we would remind this clerical gentleman and his supporters—if any there be—that we do not have time just at the moment for such a quest.

He ought to know without being told that we and our Allies are waging fierce and constant battle with the greatest aggregation of evil that ever flourished on this globe—a crazy, war-enamoured, ambitious, ruthless Emperor at the head of a mighty nation of military slaves.

Mr Ormerod should wake up from his Rip Van Winkle-like ignorance of current events. Never mind our national peccadilloes just for the present. This nation does not claim perfection, but should its history last ten thousand years this much is certain—it can never do a nobler thing than it did on the 4th of August, 1914, when it bravely armed itself with the divine sword of justice and righteousness and prepared to do its bounden duty regardless of cost.

"An Adroit Argument for Pacifism."

But what is the motive for the publication of these Ormerod theories at this time? Is it to do the Church any good? We should say that the Church which had no other message for humanity in these critical days might as well shut its doors. Is it to further any good cause whatsoever in this world, the printing of these eight pages of close-type matter? We trow not. On the contrary, we venture the opinion that if the pacifist theories expounded by this Aberdeen divine were to find any weight in the world the Germans would be upon us even while we were searching for that Ormerod will-o'-the-wisp—"common sin."

Happily, at least one outspoken minister of the Congregational body—Rev. Dr K. C. Anderson, of Ward Chapel, Dundee—has already punctured this theological bubble, and characterised it in no uncertain terms. "I do not say it is designed to deceive," says Dr Anderson, "but it is the most adroit argument for pacifism that I have come across, and I am convinced that pacifism is one of the most subtle dangers of our time."

OUR £500 REWARD.

As already announced, "The Post Sunday Special" offers £500 reward for definite information that will lead to the conviction in a Court of Justice of any person or persons acting as paid agents of any enemy Power, and as such engaged in any illegal act or conspiracy in this country against the interests of the realm. All information must be communicated confidentially in the first instance to the Editor of "The Post Sunday Special." The Reward will be paid immediately the first conviction is secured under the conditions described. The Editor reserves to himself the right of determining any point arising in connection with the Reward, and all information must be communicated on the understanding that his decision will be final. No Government, secret service, or police official is eligible for this Reward.

AMONG THE POLES

"The Worker" and "The Dagger" in Scotland.

By various readers our attention has been called to the character of some of the literature being distributed amongst the Lithuanian community in the Bellshill district. There is no suggestion that as a whole this community is unfaithful to the land of its adoption. Indeed, there are many evidences to the contrary but the Lithuanians are a simple-minded people without the education and experience that are the lot of British workers.

One of the papers circulating is a weekly by name Rankpelnis, an eight-page production of little more than tract size.

The paper, a copy of which is before us, is printed in the Lithuanian language. It is a peculiarity of this language that it is confined almost exclusively to Lithuanians. Poles, Russians, and Finns, who, though they may be able to read and converse in three or four languages are in many cases unable to speak or translate the Lithuanian language.

Rankpelnis in these circumstances is an exceedingly exclusive organ, but "The Post Sunday Special" was able to obtain the free translation of extracts from the issue dated December 14.

Under the heading "The Menace of Hunger is Approaching" the Rankpelnis paints a very gloomy picture of the lot of the working classes, and jibes at the food situation in this country.

There are other articles in the paper concerning the situation in Russia—the Bolshevik proclamation, and so forth.

One man acquainted with the Lithuanian circle described the organisation which issues Rankpelnis as a rabid, aggressive body, many of the members of which were imbued with the Bolshevik doctrines. One man formerly prominently identified with the movement at Bellshill accompanied Trotsky, the Leninist leader, from America to Russia.

While Rankpelnis readers are but a limited number of the Lithuanian community, the supporters of its tenets had considerable influence recently on the question whether the men of military age called up should join the British forces or proceed to Russia for service there. The bulk of the men decided to go to Russia, and the advocates of this course included Rankpelnis supporters.

Rankpelnis, it may be remarked, signifies "worker," and the paper is known amongst the Lithuanians for its rabid doctrines and its attacks on the Church. It is understood the circulation is not confined to the West of Scotland, as the paper makes its way into Lithuanian colonies in Fifeshire and other districts, while it is also reported to circulate to some extent in America.

Another publication that has been brought under our notice is called Kaidas. It has been circulated in Mossend, New Stevenson, and Carfin districts. The title of the paper signifies "The Dagger." A recent issue contains on the front page an offensive cartoon entitled "Britain's Perfidy," in which the figure of Britannia while shielding the poor Belgians is represented as smiting Ireland. The paper is periodically in circulation in the district, and its contents are on the lines of violent attacks on the Church and all established institutions. Indeed, one Lithuanian described it to our reporter as being "out-and-out anarchist."

Swaying the Simple-Minded Lithuanian.

A good example of the specious arguments advanced by the Lithuanian aggressive element was given at one of the men's meetings. The speaker, in advocating that the men should be unanimous in deciding to return to Russia in preference to enlisting in the British Army, stated that if all Lithuanians came to this decision the number would be such that the British Government would not have sufficient ships to transport them to Russia. The result would be, according to this speaker, that many of their men would be left behind in this country.

This argument gives a fair indication of the point of view adopted by what is known as the Bolshevik element, and the childishness of its reasoning was equalled by a subsequent speaker, who declared that if all the Lithuanians volunteered to go to Russia they would be put on unseaworthy ships, and would stand a good chance of being torpedoed in mid-ocean! The utter foolishness of such argument would not mislead anyone with an elemental idea of the British character, but it is notorious that the Lithuanians are a simple-minded people. As such the Lithuanian is easily swayed by the vociferous argument of the Bolshevik type.

For a long time the fact that the Lithuanians were allowed to go free from military service caused deep-set discontent in the districts where they are located. Miners and others had a grievance which they strongly expressed, that their fellow-workers' brothers and sons should join the colours while the tall, well-built Lithuanians were allowed to be free from any form of military service.

It was frankly recognised that these friendly aliens did not want to serve in the army if they could avoid it. That position is now altered. Under a convention with Russia a comb-out was made of Lithuanians, and, as already stated, the majority of these elected to go to Russia.

LATEST FROM LONDON.

LABOUR AND THE NEW MAN-POWER SCHEME.

DRASTIC MEASURES WITH PROFITEERS.

(By "Post" Special Wire.)

London, Saturday Night.

MAN-POWER is still the problem of the hour, and the terms of the promised Government Bill are eagerly awaited by those directly interested.

Sir Auckland Geddes has scored an initial triumph by carrying the whole of the Government with him on the suggestion that combing out should be applied to all men up to twenty-four, regardless of occupation or married state.

What he proposes is that exemptions should no longer be given to general service men in these groups, but they will still have the right to appeal against calling up on any of the usual grounds.

Government approval of the scheme is conditional on the Director-General of National Service winning over the Labour leaders, who are in a critical mood towards the proposals.

Demand for All the Facts.

An important series of meetings with the Trade Union leaders concerned begins after Christmas, and will be extended into the New Year. As has already been suggested in this column, the rank and file of the unions involved are not too friendly in their attitude, and there is certain to be strong opposition. The Union leaders are of opinion that if the Government take the bold course of stating the case fully and frankly the opposition may be overcome, and they suggest a repetition of the private conferences which proved so successful in the early days of compulsory service discussions, when Lord Kitchener carried Labour with him step by step by telling frankly what he required.

There is reason to believe that all danger of a Cabinet crisis over the matter has passed. Sir Auckland Geddes will accept the result of the negotiations now being opened, and whatever agreement is reached with the Labour men will be embodied in the Government's Bill.

Mr Henderson's Mission.

Having failed in his amateur diplomatic efforts, Mr Arthur Henderson now comes forward in a role not so acceptable to the peace-at-any-price Labour members. Knowing how liable the Government's man-power proposals are to arouse suspicion and distrust on the Clyde and in other Scottish districts, he is going to Glasgow to confer with the representatives of the unions concerned, and he can be depended on to use his powers of conciliation in the national interest.

Among the questions to be dealt with in addition to calling up the younger groups of men in protected trades is that of dilution. The Government contemplate revival of some of the dilution proposals embodied in the Bill, which was dropped as the sequel to the epidemic of strikes preceding Mr Churchill's advent at the Ministry of Munitions.

Mr Churchill will take an active part in the negotiations between Sir Auckland Geddes and the Labour men, and for this work he has the advantage of possessing the confidence of the men's representatives to a greater degree than his predecessor. His abandonment of the leaving certificate has undoubtedly made for better feeling among the men, and, as he contemplates other concessions, it is just possible that he may provide a surprise by winning over some of those who are most active in the opposition to further dilution.

War on the Profiteer.

The Government realise that if they are to command working classes support for the new demands they are going to make on man-power they must take more energetic action against the profiteers, and Lord Rhondda has been in consultation with the Premier and other members of the Government on the subject.

The Food Controller is credited with the view that only imprisonment will check the evil of holding up supplies, but the difficulty is to make the multiple shops amenable to the law. The need for revision of the existing law is receiving attention from the law officers.

In the meantime the Food Controller's department is hurrying forward plans for an extension of the local rationing schemes adopted in Birmingham and elsewhere. It has been made clear in negotiations with the representatives of the workers that there will be opposition to further calling up of men from transport trades unless a satisfactory scheme for the better distribution of food is produced.

A Bride of the People.

The matrimonial intentions of the Prince of Wales periodically become a subject of gossip and speculation, and if His Royal Highness ever reads the paragraphs that make their appearance in the society papers, he must be a good deal amused at the wide range that is given to his fancy.

Outside the German Empire there is hardly an eligible Princess in Europe whose name has not been associated with that of our own heir-apparent at one time or another during the last two or three years. Quite recently the Prince was said to be deeply attached to a beautiful Princess whom he had never met and on whom he had never even set eyes.

The possibility that the Prince may depart from the usual custom and wed his bride in the daughter of one of the noble houses of England has, however, received as yet very little attention from the professional gossips. I mention the fact because the daughter of one of our ducal families is just now being greatly chaffed by her girl friends over the possibility of her contracting a Royal marriage. I hasten to say that the lady in question gives no countenance whatever to the story.

GERMAN SPIES AND OUR CONVOYS.

DEMAND FOR STRICTER SUPERVISION OF NEUTRAL SHIPS AND SEAMEN.

By MAURICE PRENDERGAST.

London, Saturday.

"UNSATISFACTORY" is the very mildest term that can be applied to the news of the recent convoy disaster in the North Sea. Public indignation has only been restrained from direct and very forcible expression by the fact that the whole affair is being investigated by a Naval Court of Inquiry. Three of the senior officers of the Grand Fleet, Admiral Sir F. C. Doveton Sturdee, Vice-Admiral Sir J. M. de Robeck, and Rear-Admiral W. E. Goodenough, have been appointed by the Commander-in-Chief to investigate all the circumstances.

Admiral Sir David Beatty has been requested, by the Admiralty, to expedite the proceedings of the Court, and, until a further public announcement is made, it is best not to go hunting for scapegoats at present.

When the earlier raid took place on October 16, public dissatisfaction was voiced in the press over the loss of our destroyers Strongbow and Mary Rose, with nine neutral vessels of the convoy. But the First Lord gave us a satisfactory explanation of this affair in his speech of November 1. Three ships equipped with wireless, accompanied the convoy. They were Strongbow, Mary Rose, and an escort steamer. Strongbow's wireless was disabled by the first shot of the action; Mary Rose received a shell in her magazine and blew up, while the escort steamer had been sent away. No news of convoy having been attacked was received until the surviving ships arrived at Lerwick.

"Had we received wireless information," said Sir Eric Geddes, when referring to this matter, "the British Navy would have asked for no better chance than it then had, to intercept the raiders on their return journey." In the last raid, there was no such breakdown of wireless communication, for we are told that three British destroyers arrived on the scene, but only some hours after everything was over. Again, in the case of the Tyne raid, destroyers came up, but three to four hours after ships had been sunk. The reason why our ships did not arrive on the scene of action in time is the precise question now being investigated by the Court of Inquiry.

How Germans Get Information

However, one good thing has resulted from these misfortunes, and it is the focussing of public attention on the question of how the Germans get their information. On June 17 last this paper reproduced a remarkable key-chart and code from the Norwegian newspaper, Tidens Tegn. These useful helps were reported to have been distributed to German spies in Norway from their headquarters in Gothenburg. For example, the apparently harmless message:—"Barrel, series 4, jar, series 2, first quality, two black painted, two blue painted, one red painted, 404"—would probably be the message suitable for an attack on a convoy such as that of the 12th. Certain points in the code have been mixed up to avoid giving away useful information, but the meaning of the above message is that British destroyers and trawlers, with two Swedish, two Norwegian, and one Danish vessel, could be attacked in square 404 of the key-chart—which is about the position where the raid did come off. It is a typical example of how the German Admiralty gets the information to work on. Norway is simply rotten with German spies working under the cover of such commercial codes as this.

On October 16 we had a convoy smashed up in crossing from Norway to Scotland. On the 12th we had two convoys crossing from Scotland to Norway, and one of them was also destroyed. Therefore, no matter which side of the North Sea the vessels have started from, the Germans have got the news in good time. They usually do. When Lodys wired to the Continent that "Johnson died this morning," the German Admiralty knew we were about to declare war, and a big German mine-layer was sowing mines off the mouth of the Thames in the first few hours of hostilities. No doubt the messages to Copenhagen or Amsterdam, saying that "the order for 200 boxes of margarine is cancelled," or that "the 3000 Two Per Cent. Deferred Java shares have been transferred," also prove very useful to the German Admiralty.

People Who Should be Watched.

Far too much news circulates about the bar-rooms of East Coast ports, and other mercantile harbours, regarding the dates of sailings for ships and convoys and the courses they are to take. The supervision of neutral seamen in these places appears to be more or less casual. Cases have been observed where neutral seamen go ashore on the night of their ship's sailing and get drunk. Their steamer sails, and they are allowed to hang about for days or weeks, possibly collecting information, until they get another vessel. It is neutrals and a few Englishmen that the German Intelligence Service now employ

The Home Secretary told us this week that espionage had been traced to Swedes, Norwegians, Danes, Dutchmen, Spaniards, and South Americans. All these are neutrals, and precisely the kind of people who deserve close watching. U-boat commanders have proudly exhibited lists of ships they are to sink, and have displayed an uncanny knowledge of their victims, their cargoes, ports of sailing, and destination. The U-boat attack on the American troopships last summer was a feather in the cap of the German espionage service, because it meant conveying news in good time across some thousands of miles to Germany.

It may not be possible for us to isolate our ports in the way that the Germans occasionally shut up Kiel and Wilhelmshaven, but we may have to take the stringest course of isolating ships in a strict form of quarantine for three or four days before they sail, and only then allowing them to sail under sealed orders. But there is still the difficulty of freights; if these are stencilled or labelled, they indicate a ship's destinations and her probable course. Perhaps this "leak" has already been suitably dealt with. The latest convoy raid is most unpleasant evidence that the enemy is still getting his news through, and the sooner we wake up and block every possible source or channel of information the better.

Armistice Conditions in Baltic.

Article V. of the Russo-German armistice lays down conditions for the suspension of naval warfare. It is evident that the Huns have got by far the best of the bargain, as they have done throughout the whole of that precious document. The sea boundary line is drawn trough the most southerly, and nearly the narrowest part of the Baltic. To the east and northwards of this limit sea fighting is to be suspended in nine-tenths of the Baltic. But the other tenth left outside the armistice area includes Kiel, Stettin, and Lubeck. Kiel is a submarine base, and one terminus of the famous canal. The Germans therefore have full freedom to move their ships about from Kiel into the North Sea, send out U boats against our shipping, and maintain their huge force of armed steamers, trawlers, drifters, tugs, Zeppelins, and seaplanes, watching all entrances into the Baltic from the North Sea. "The little more, and how much it is!" Just one corner of the Baltic left untouched by this armistice, and just that area most valuable to the Huns for their warfare against Russia's Allies!

The most amazing part of the whole series of naval conditions is that in which Lenin and Trotski guarantee that the Entente naval forces in the Baltic shall not undertake any offensive operations. British submarines may be, and probably are, in Russian ports. The Allies refuse to recognise the present government of Russia by the gang of international Anarchists and German Jews who have assumed control. Therefore Lenin (alias Cederblum) and Trotsky (alias something else ending in stein) have no right whatever to say that any of H.M. ships are bound by this armistice.

Other complications which suggest themselves concern Archangel in the White Sea. Absolute anarchy and disorder are said to have prevailed at this port, until the place was put under the care of a British naval commandant and policed by British naval ratings. Russian munition and supply steamers appear to have been convoyed to Archangel by our warships, for photos of the harbour show various British fighting vessels there. Lenin, no doubt, will try to put these ships of ours out of action by another agreement with the affable Hun. Certain Russian warships are said to be in the Mediterranean, including the famous Askold or "Packet of Woodbines," which took part in the Gallipoli campaign. It is believed that these vessels are not going to observe any truce on Lenin's orders.

Mercantile traffic is to be continued in the Baltic, so Germany can get all the munition ores, food supplies, and other commodities she wants from Sweden, Denmark, and Norway. On the other hand, the Allies have wisely stopped any further supplies going to Russia, whether in the form of army equipment, artillery, munitions, or commercial goods. So here the Hun scores again all along the line.

A Draw!

At the present moment the condition of the U-boat warfare is a kind of drawn game. For the past two or three weeks the U boats have not been able to force up our big ship losses to any appreciable higher figure. On our side we have not been able to reduce the same casualties to any lower standard. It looks as if the total losses for December will break the series of falling monthly averages, which began last June, and ran down to the end of November without a break.

However, Sir Eric Geddes has wisely told us to take large views of the U-boat question, and not to look at the results for a few weeks, but to compare the results by months and quarters. To gain the true perspective we must be well away from the subjects, and make broad surveys. In this ways the Admiralty has issued two diagrams, serving as a kind of illustrated supplement to the Premier's last speech. These charts give a graphic and telling picture of the U-boat campaign against shipping, and cover both 1916 and 1917 by quarterly periods.

The shipping loss chart rises up to the famous "peak" of the June quarter in this year, which marks and includes the summit of U-boat achievements during last April. Since June the rate of our mercantile losses are shown as descending steeply, and the present reduction of tonnage is just about equal to the rate of wastage a year ago. The other chart, showing the progress of U-boat killing, displays one slump, and that during the June-September quarter of last year. In November, 1916, the Balfour-Jackson Board of Admiralty came to an end, and a new regime was begun under Sir Edward Carson and Sir John Jellicoe. The U-boat losses then shot up, and have continued climbing during the whole of the present year.

The "flat" at the top of the U-boat curve for the present September-December quarter does not look at all satisfactory. It appears as if we were not sinking U boats any faster, in spite of the fact that the enemy is turning more of these craft out of his yards. But it should be explained that the figures for this last quarter are not complete. The "flat" showing this quarter's U-boat killings is based only on the figures for ten weeks, and there are still three weeks' returns to be ascertained and checked. But, to complete the chart, the number of U boats destroyed dring the last ten weeks has been taken as covering the whole quarter. When the missing three weeks' returns are available it is expected that the September-December quarter's result will show another Excelsior climb in the killing-off of pirates.

GLASGOW POLICEMAN KILLS FIFTY GERMANS.

Sergeant John M'Aulay, D.C.M., Scots Guards, who has been recommended for the V.C., accounted for no fewer than fifty Germans. A son of Mr and Mrs John M'Aulay, he won the Distinguished Conduct Medal in September last, and has been frequently mentioned in despatches. Before enlisting he was a member of the Northern Division of the Glasgow Police.

GERMAN SPIES AND OUR CONVOYS—Continued.

PEACE PRIZE FOR LENIN.

PRISONERS OF WAR KILLED

IN GERMAN RAILWAY DISASTER.

(Specially Contributed.)

THE German Social Democratic party, whose Pacifist efforts have succeeded so well in Russia, are now endeavouring to secure for Lenin and Trotzky the prize offered by the No Invasion Internationalist Pacifist Society for the most efficacious peace move of 1917.

The President of the Committee, the former Minister Loveland, does not commit himself, however, for, according to his decision, Russia's affairs are still too much in the melting pot. He is to wait till next year, and, if results justify their demands, he will then give the prize to Lenin and Trotzky.

Berlin's Food Difficulties.

Berlin's communal kitchens are to be extended on a very large scale this winter, for, with the present coal and gas scarcity, little or no cooking can be done in the homes of the citizens. "Many householders," says the Berliner Tageblatt, "which, up till now, have been in a position to do their own cooking, will be forced to use the communal kitchen this winter, so we must perpare for a tremendously increased demand on our public war kitchens."

It is interesting to note the advertisements of the Berlin Food Committee in the Tageblatt, which cast a light on the difficulties of living in the German capital at present. Certain dates are advertised as sale days for various foodstuffs, and if you miss the date mentioned, you do not have any further chance of procuring the same commodities for a month or longer. Thus we see—"Sale of biscuits intimated from the 20th to the 23th December. On the 15th of December a new card for honey substitute and vegetable substitute will be issued. Owing to the shortage of coal in the suburb of Schoenberg, holders of coal tickets will be supplied with candles instead of coal this week. Twelve candles for a first-class ticket, eight or six candles for a second-class ticket."

Prisoners Killed in Railway Disaster.

A terrible railway collision, in which a train loaded with prisoners was wrecked, and many prisoners killed, took place about five miles from Hamm station, on the direct route between Berlin and Cologne. Something had gone wrong with the points, so that a Berlin-Cologne express dashed into the prisoners' train, and threw most of the carriages off the rails on to a side line. To complete the disaster, a goods train, travelling on the side line in the opposite direction, ran over the fallen carriages at full speed. "Most of the carriages were folded up like card houses," says the Berliner Tageblatt, "and the goods train engine went over them. The goods train received heavy injuries, but the express train engine alone was damaged, and all the passengers were able to leave the train unhurt. A fire broke out in the first carriage, and, owing to the strong wind, the whole train, with the exception of the last carriage, fell a prey to the flames, and only the iron framework was left standing."

Diphtheria Epidemic in Berlin.

A serious epidemic of diphtheria is raging in Berlin just now. The Berlin Tageblatt says on the subject:—"Berliners hoped that we might have been spared this scourge this winter, but ever since the cold weather set in the number of cases have increased with every week. In October 200 cases per week were registered, and now the number has reached 875."

LATEST COMMENTS FROM THE WORLD'S PRESS.

"No Selfish Advantage."

To-day this country seeks no ... vantage. The fate of the German ... must be settled, not by Great B... by the Peace Congress. That is ... ous pronouncement.—Daily Exp...

Still Some Trumps?

The Bolsheviks may not be ... as some of their critics suppose. ... scrapped the army (which, ... nearly useless), but they have ... cards to bargain with if they k... —Nation.

A Welcome Sign.

The creation of a Naval Allia... a welcome sign that leaders of ... nations are coming to realise ... momentous issues which depend ... cessful conduct of the war at ... and Military Record.

Canada's Firm Decision.

There is no half-heartedness ... mandate given to Sir Robert B... authorises the Prime Ministe... Canada's utmost resources in ... man-power to fight the war to ... finish.—The Outlook.

The Margarine Scarcity.

The margarine scarcity is large... able to lack of forethought on ... the authorities and to a thoroughly ... system of distribution, which gives ... practically a monopoly to certain ... multiple trading concerns.—Daily ...

Italy Will Help Us.

We are helping Italy now, but ... may come when Italy will help us. ... is helping us in Flanders, and we are ... ing her by taking over more of our ... We must help one another. For ... we are one nation guarding ... Truth.

The Crucial Moment.

It is easy to say "Never again," and "This war must be the last." But the ... of the war must find the British Government ready with a provisional scheme for the ... ternational machinery by which ... another and worse conflict can be rendered unlikely.—New Statesman.

Disagreeable, But Necessary.

Rationing will not make things pleasant as some people suppose. Those who ... them so are not doing a public service. ... will relieve some of the evils at present rampant, but in itself it must be regarded as a disagreeable necessity, which must be accepted only to save us from worse evil —Times.

Anarchist Madness.

M. Trotsky has announced his ... to stop at nothing in suppressing the Moder... ate party. The death sentence for desertion was suppressed in the Russian army ... to be revived for the purposes of Russian politics. The Anarchist madness must run its course, until Russia awakens to ... again.—Spectator.

A War Tragedy!

A tavern-keeper purchased a pair of ... trousers" for 17s. While returning to ... home at Ober-Rombach, in Eastern Alsace through some swampy pastures in a pouring rain, the "war trousers" became saturated with water and melted away into ... ness. Eventually the man reached ... bare-limbed to the waist.—Mülheimer Volkszeitung.

A Wonderful Delusion.

Apparently Lenin and Trotsky believe and rightly, that their peace move can have no prospect of success unless the German and Austrian Socialists take command. Their wonderful delusion is that under the stimulus of their own action this, which means a successful revolution in the Central Empires, is likely and possible.—Dundee Advertiser.

Not a Merry Topic.

Lord Rhondda's jollity or misery, however, is not the point. We want him to tell us, as a public official who has ... to be merry next week, how the thing is to be done. Is the merriment to be spiritual or carnal? Meditation on the Nativity ... "the sinless years that breathed beneath the Syrian blue" can hardly be a merry topic when all the Christians in the world are engaged in murdering, robbing, starving, and torturing one another.—Saturday Review.

FOR OUR LOVED ONES "OVER THERE."

Herald angels, silent keeping
Vigil o'er our war-worn earth,
Listen while we breathe a prayer
For our loved ones "over there."
Far from home and land of ...
As ye watched o'er Bethlehem
Keep, we pray, close watch ...

On the sodden fields of Flanders
On the blood-stained soil of ...
By Jerusalem the golden,
And in Eden's garden olden,
Britain's glory they enhance ...
Shine, oh! Star of Bethlehem
Through the darkness ...

In the day of death and danger
When for home and kindred ...
Dauntless they breast the wave,
Braving peril, sword, and fire
Gallant souls that know no fear
Saviour, born at Bethlehem
Shield and save and succour ...

Fighting, toiling, waking, sleeping
Let no hurt nor ill befide ...
Though we keep the day without ...
May they feel our love about ...
And Thy presence at their side
Saviour, in a manger born
Bless our boys this Christmas ...

CHARLES ...

ITALIANS' NOTABLE VICTORY.

MYSTERY OF EVENTS IN RUSSIA—THE OUTLOOK FOR NEXT SPRING.

By GUY L'ESTRANGE.

(OVER "POST" SPECIAL WIRE.)

London, Saturday Night.

PUBLIC attention during the last few days has been concentrated on the course of events in Russia rather than on anything that has happened on the active fighting fronts. From such news as comes through it is evident that the Bolsheviks are no longer having things all their own way, and everyone recognises the effect which even a partial Russian recovery would have on the whole military situation when the Allies resume their offensive next spring. In Russia, however, we can only await development of events.

Elsewhere the most notable movement in the war has been the recapture by the Italians of the important height known as Monte Asolone. The latest German wireless throws doubt on the completeness of this success, and it may be that the struggle for the position is still proceeding. But if it passes completely into the hands of our Ally the situation on the Piave front will be greatly eased, for the capture of this five-thousand-foot height last Tuesday had made the position of the Allied armies very difficult between the River Brenta and Mount Grappa.

Nevertheless, we cannot yet regard the situation on the Italian front as wholly free from anxiety. The indications are that the enemy is still bringing up reinforcements, and another big blow here may yet be attempted. If so, it would be something of a gamble, for, unless the Austro-Germans can feed on the country, the railways they have available would hardly suffice for the supply of any great army.

Snow in the West.

As for the Western Front it is buried at present under a white coverlet of snow. Properly understood that fact stands out as an answer to all the talk there has been during the last two or three weeks about preparations for a gigantic enemy offensive somewhere between the sea and the Swiss frontier. In due course the snow will melt, turning all the ground into a quagmire of mud, and rendering all military operations impossible except in certain areas where the terrain is rocky and more or less impervious to the effects of the weather.

When the conditions are favourable it is exceedingly probable that Von Hindenburg will attempt a blow on either the French or British fronts. This presumably is the main purpose of the big transfer of troops from the East to the West which has taken place, though it cannot be too often emphasised that the rushing up of reinforcements to the French front is a measure dictated also by common considerations of prudence in the light of the startling success won by the tanks, without any considerable artillery assistance on November 20.

At the risk of repetition it may be recalled that previous to General Byng's victory on the Cambrai front elaborate artillery preparation, extending over several days, had been regarded as an indispensable preliminary to infantry attack. This artillery preparation gave the enemy due notice of our intentions, and gave him ample time to move up reserves to any sector that might be threatened.

Once bitten, twice shy, and it will not be easy to repeat the surprise we inflicted on the Germans at Cambrai. But Von Hindenburg cannot afford to take any risks, and, like a wise commander, he is no longer content to hold his lines lightly in the West, and invite the repetition of such a disaster as might very easily have overtaken him a month ago.

A Lost Chance.

People often ask how it came about that Sir Douglas Haig failed to take full advantage of the opportunity of effecting a clean break through the enemy's lines which undoubtedly presented itself at the close of the first day's fighting in that memorable battle of November 20.

Without possessing, or pretending to possess, any special knowledge of the difficulties that arose it is yet possible with such material as the correspondents have been permitted to send through to form a very plausible estimate of the situation that presented itself after the tanks broke through the Hindenburg line.

All accounts agree that no one was prepared for the astonishing success that was gained. This much we may gather from the comparatively narrow front on which the first attack was launched and the manner in which it was broadened out afterwards for the effect of its own momentum.

It may be said that all this ought to have been foreseen, though people who are inclined to criticise our Higher Command would do well to remember the old saying that it is easy to be wise after the event.

Consider the circumstances. The tanks had been tried on various fronts since they first came into operation on the Somme front more than a year ago. They did very well in various engagements, but had not won any conspicuous success. On the Flanders front in particular they were constantly in trouble with the mud, and the crater holes also proved a serious obstacle to their proving a really effective weapon in the war.

Is it surprising, therefore, that no one fully recognised their potentialities as a means of winding up the enemy's wire entanglements and opening up the road for an infantry attack without the customary artillery bombardment? But on the Cambrai front they were able to show what they were capable of achieving. The tanks crews have always been enthusiastic about their own arm of the service, but one may venture a shrewd suspicion that they were surprised themselves at the manner in which they went through the Hindenburg Line.

Anyhow, everyone else must have been surprised, and, judging by what afterwards happened, there was no army on the spot of sufficient magnitude to pour through the gap that was created, and to convert an astonishing tactical success into a great strategical victory which might have broken up the whole German line in the West, and have forced the enemy to uncover Western Belgium and the greater part of Northern France.

Whilst most sober judges are of opinion that this missed opportunity was one which could hardly have been reasonably foreseen, it is felt that the set-back we afterwards sustained on the Cambrai front was one which ought not to have happened. Apparently this is the view of the military authorities themselves, or the thorough investigation of the whole matter which is now taking place would hardly have been ordered.

The Germans had the advantage of us in the wonderful network of railways converging on Cambrai, which they control. Nevertheless, the positions which we still retain should afford a very admirable stepping-off place when operations on a big scale are resumed in the spring.

The Spring Outlook.

As a result of the campaign of 1917 we now possess the advantage of position at quite a number of vital points between Passchendaele and the Champagne. Roulers, Lens, Lille, Cambrai, and Laon are all threatened, and such a position must occasion very serious anxiety to Von Hindenburg. Unless he can recover some of the ground lost he will be forced quite early in the spring to uncover Western Belgium at least, and possibly to undertake a retirement on other and even more considerable areas of his front.

That being the position, it is certain that when the campaign of 1918 opens he will endeavour to get his blow in first, and wrest the initiative from the Allies. We may await the result with confidence.

The Russian debacle has altered the situation to a material degree in enabling the Germans to bring back many divisions from the East. To that extent the numerical superiority the Allies previously possessed in France has been reduced. But it has not disappeared, and the man-power proposals now under consideration by the Government will presumably tend to alter the balance of strength in our favour.

The Bogey of Invasion.

It may be urged in answer to this that any new material brought into the army during the next two or three months from the railways, the mines, the munition factories, and from the luxury trades will not become effective soldiers for some little time to come. That is true enough, but it is impossible to imagine that the War Office will ignore the very pointed remarks passed by an exceptionally strong Parliamentary Committee on the excessive dimensions of the standing army that is still maintained within our own shores.

It is not, of course, permissible to give the actual figures, but those who are familiar with them were not less surprised at the numbers than the members of this committee showed themselves to be. A very substantial proportion of this army is, of course, designed to make good the wastage occurring in the army in France. But the residue retained presumably to meet the risk of an enemy invasion of our shores, is far larger than the experts have ever led us to suppose would be needed to meet a menace of this description.

Naval and military men are agreed that if invasion were ever attempted it must be with a relatively small force of anything from seventy thousand to one hundred and twenty thousand men. From this we can gauge our own requirements for meeting such a threat.

The standing army maintained to resist invasion could be, and would be strengthened, moreover, by thoroughly efficient and veteran soldiers who happened to be home on leave from the Western or other fronts. This is fully recognised by Sir William Robertson and Lord French. It is, indeed, against such a possibility as this that the men when they come home on leave are required to bring all their equipment with them.

The Parliamentary Committee to which reference has already been made reports that the cost of the upkeep of the army retained at home amounts to two-thirds of the entire war-time expenditure of the navy, including auxiliary services. There must be a reserve of strength here which we ought to be able to use to greater advantage in the future than we have apparently done in the past.

BELGIAN WOMEN CONSCRIPTED.

FORCED TO WORK UNDER GUNFIRE.

GERMANS ILL-TREATING OCCUPIED TERRITORY.

London, Saturday.

Reuter's Agency learns from official Belgian sources that the latest reports from occupied Belgium afford new evidence of the sudden increase of forced labour for women. Not only grown women but even children of twelve and thirteen are now subjected along the coast—particularly near Zeebrugge—to forced labour.

Last month, at Inglemuenster, a large number of women between the ages of seventeen and thirty five were ordered to follow the soldiers in order to do "laundry work" for the German Army. They were, however, taken to Heule, near Courtrai, given a spade, and made to dig trenches.

In October similar outrages were committed in the Tourai district.

Women Working Under Fire.

It is known that in the villages of the German Army zone, lists of women are compiled with the obvious intention of calling them up for forced labour. Even in areas under the progressive fire of the Allies' guns, whence the civil population has been removed, able-bodied women are detained to do military work. The French refugees were the first to be registered, and were divided into two classes, the first being fit women spinsters and childless women, the second unfit females and mothers with young children.

Since the early days of the German occupation Belgian women have been subjected to inhuman treatment, but this was not general, in order to provide for neutral countries an excuse for their crimes.

The Germans invented a pretext that Belgian women were giving themselves up to prostitution, in consequence of which the German soldiers, who were the only people with money, became an easy prey.

Among the first group of deported, condemned for acts of patriotism, were members of well-known aristocratic families. In the camp at Siegburg were kept the Princess de Croy, Comtesse de Belleville, Baronne de Lamine, and others.

Some of the prisoners had to work in the field, others in the brickfields. During the past summer about a hundred women were taken to the camp at Oberbruck, where they met 400 women from Alsace-Lorraine. The poor girls were forced to work under most unhealthy conditions in the manufacture of Zeppelin covers.

At the same time other Belgian women were sent to do navvy work on the new railway between Aix la Chapelle and Louvain.

Since October the Germans in the army zones have been drafting young women into labour battalions, some of which are employed behind the front, often under the fire of the guns at Bruges. Women are performing heavy manual work at the port.

A German soldier's diary, captured by the British a month ago, reveals the fact that it was this man's duty to take every morning to Leke village, just behind the Belgian front, shelled almost daily, a gang of forty-seven women who had to help there in the building of complete dug-outs.

Another German prisoner, born in Posen, questioned at Belgian Headquarters, said that in the same zone women and girls were employed in road-mending under the supervision of soldiers. In the country behind Courtrai the women of the villages of Ingoyghen and Tieghem are forced to assist in the building of an aviation ground. Even "special companies" for "hard heads," as the Germans call unwilling workers, are organised.

COURT SEQUEL TO WEDDING.

GUESTS WHO ATTENDED PER MOTOR.

AMUSING CASE UNDER PETROL ORDER.

Dunoon, Saturday.

Considerable interest was taken in a large number of prosecutions under the Petrol Restrictions Order against motor parties who attended the wedding of the daughter of the laird, Sir Arthur Campbell Orde, to the Rev. M'Farlane Barrow, of the Episcopal Church, Lochgilphead. When the cases were called before Sheriff Penney there was not even standing room in the Court.

The wedding was held in Christ Church, Lochgilphead, and the ceremony was conducted by the Bishop of Argyll and the Isles, all the inhabitants from the surrounding district attending. A large number travelled to church in motor cars provided by local hirers, and it was through this that the cases came into Court.

Provost John Gilmour, Argyll Arms, Inveraray; Robert Finlay, Royal Hotel, Ardrishaig; and Margaret D. Gillies, Stag Hotel, Lochgilphead, were charged with using motor spirit for conveying fares to the wedding in Christ Church, Lochgilphead, contrary to the Petrol Restriction Order.

Provost Gilmour pleaded guilty, and was fined 10s. The others pleaded not guilty, and evidence was led at length, among the witnesses being Sir Arthur Campbell Orde and Lady Campbell Orde.

A Novel Plea.

A novel plea was set up by Mr Lindsay, the agent for the hirers. In the case of Finlay he argued that the car contained the bride and bridegroom, who had entered into a contract of marriage, and therefore the car was being used for business purposes, as the bride and bridegroom were travelling to church in pursuance of and to carry out that contract of marriage, and that it was therefore necessary to use the car.

On evidence submitted by Mr A. R. Nimmo, Procurator-Fiscal, Dunoon, a verdict of guilty was found, and each fined 10s.

Andrew Dewar, W.S., Tighnamara, Ardrishaig, and Edward Aitken, Mealmohr, Tarbert, were charged with using petrol in private cars for attending the wedding.

Mr Dewar argued that he was using the car for carrying a ledger between his house and his office, and only incidentally called in at the wedding.

The Sheriff convicted, and imposed fines of 10s.

Three farmers were fined 10s each for using petrol to attend a dinner given at Poltalloch in honour of Colonel Malcolm, C.B., having attained his eightieth year.

IRISH RIVER MYSTERY.

GIRL'S BODY FOUND IN A SACK.

STRANGE PARALLEL WITH FORMER TRAGEDY.

Belfast, Saturday.

The Irish police are still looking for a clue to the murder mystery of the River Suck. Many theories are put forward respecting the identity of the girl whose decomposed body was found tied up in a sack.

A peculiar coincidence is attached to the crime, which has caused a sensation far beyond the bounds of Roscommon. At the exact spot where the girl's body was discovered there was found just thirty years ago a bag which contained the body of a gamekeeper named William Mahon. This startling discovery caused a sensation throughout the country which equalled that experienced at the present time by the recovery from the same river of the unknown girl's mutilated body.

Mahon had disappeared mysteriously several months previously, and there was evidence to prove that the unfortunate gamekeeper had been first of all bound and gagged and then kicked to death.

Eventually a man named Tansey was placed under arrest on the capital charge. He was found guilty, and sentence of death was passed upon him. Subsequently, however, he was reprieved, and eventually he was allowed out on ticket-of-leave. He came to live in the district in which the crime was committed, and a few years ago he died.

The Mysterious Sack.

During the recent fishing season residents of Ballyforan observed a bag floating in the river, but paid little attention to it, as it is not an unusual thing for the intestines of a sheep or other animal to be placed in a bag for the purpose of catching pike and eels. It is now surmised that this is the sack that contained the remains of the unidentified girl.

So decomposed were the remains that it was at first almost impossible to ascertain the sex of the victim of the crime. Doctors, however, subsequently confirmed the conclusions of the police authorities that they were those of a dwarf female of about twenty-five years of age. Both ears were missing. Medical evidence has been given to the effect that she was not criminally ill-treated. That the body could have floated from the upper reaches of the Suck is evidenced by the fact that some years ago the carcase of a bullock drowned at Athleague was washed ashore at Ballinasloe, a distance of some thirty miles.

GLASGOW BOYS PRISONERS IN GERMANY

A quintette of Glasgow soldiers who are prisoners in Germany. The centre figure is Private William Moore, Royal Scots Fusiliers, whose father resides at 11 Quay Street, Saltcoats.

CAUSTIC CLYDE COMMENT

On National Shipyards.

In the December report of the Boilermakers' Society the Clyde District Committee, referring to the national shipbuilding policy, say that "the attention of members might be drawn to the type of men who have been appointed to superintend the future of our national shipyards. All of them are employers who have openly declared their enmity to Government ownership of shipyards."

Incidentally, it is continued, "why select employers for the work when we know it is the workers they themselves depend on in their own yards. To those who know the rotten conditions in the national dockyards the position is obvious. They will see that the Government-owned shipyards will neither compete in output nor in conditions with the private yards they represent, so that they may be able to point to the apparent failure of Government ownership. Again the Government has appointed 'amateurs.'"

SIXTY YEARS A HIGHLAND PRIEST.

Dunoon, Saturday.

To-day the funeral took place from Dunoon to Dalbeth, Glasgow, of the Rev. John Macdonald, who for over sixty years was a priest in the Highlands. Father John M'Elward conducted a requiem service in St Mun's Church in the morning, and the remains were followed by the leading citizens to the steamer.

Father Macdonald was a native of Lochaber, Inverness-shire, and was eighty-five years of age.

On the local bowling green Father Macdonald was a special favourite with visitors, who delighted in his gifts as a raconteur, especially in Celtic lore, when he broke into Gaelic.

I.L.P. CONFERENCE AT FALKIRK.

Falkirk, Saturday Night.

This afternoon nearly one hundred delegates, representing the several Trades Unions, Co-Operative Societies, British Socialists, and Independent Labour Party in the new Parliamentary boundary of Falkirk, Stirling, and Grangemouth, met in conference at Falkirk to discuss the advisability of running a Labour candidate at next Parliamentary election. The meeting was addressed by Mr Ben. Shaw, secretary to the Scottish Advisory Committee of the National Labour Party; Mr Hugh Lyon, Glasgow; and Councillor A. Logan, Falkirk. The delegates approved of the proposal that a Labour candidate should be secured.

TRAMCAR AND MILK CART COLLIDE.

Alexandria, Saturday Night.

This forenoon a tramcar proceeding towards Jamestown collided with a milk cart driven by Mr William Murdoch, farmer, Burnbrae, Kilmaronock. Barrels of milk were thrown on to the road, while the wheel of the cart was damaged. The tramcar also was slightly damaged.

HOW SWEDEN CAN GET COAL.

Approved Cargoes to Britain.

Stockholm, Saturday.

Replying to an official communication from the Swedish Foreign Office respecting supplies of English coal to Sweden Sir Esme Howard, British Minister, says that during conversations with the Swedish Foreign Minister he informed him that coal for Swedish requirements was available if Swedish ships would come to England to take it, the condition being that they should carry approved cargoes to England, such as sawn wood, pig iron, and steel.

This conversation took place in the spring. In June he (Sir Esme) confirmed the offer, and asked how much coal Sweden would probably require per month. Some weeks later the Swedish Government intimated about 150,000 tons per month, but that it was feared no more than 100,000 tons monthly could be transported, and it was hoped to take from 75,000 to 100,000 tons per month.

There was no reason to believe that in the case of an agreement now being reached Great Britain could not supply the principal part of Sweden's requirements of coal, the price of which in English harbours was about 32s and 34s per ton.

FOOD FOR STARVING FINNS.

America Releases 40,000 Tons of Grain.

Washington, Saturday.

The Food Administration and War Trade Board have released 40,000 tons, or about ten shiploads of oats and corn for the starving people of Finland. As soon as Dr Kaarle Ignatius, the Special Commissioner for Finland, can get his ship loaded the foodstuffs will be started to Sweden on the way to the Finns.

For humane reasons the Food Administration has released this grain for Finland out of the scanty stores that are more than needed by America's associates in the war.

SAILOR RESCUES BOY AT JAMESTOWN.

Alexandria, Saturday Night.

This forenoon there was an exciting incident on Ewing's Dam, Jamestown, where some boys were sliding. The ice gave way, and one of the boys, John M'Coll, about twelve years' old, son of Mr John M'Coll, 14 Milton Terrace, Jamestown, fell into the water. The boy was in a serious plight, but a sailor named Alexander Craig, who was home on furlough, and happened to be passing at the time, heard the cries for help, and promptly rescued the unfortunate lad from his perilous position.

How The Lynx Eluded the Detectives.

MAN PROPOSES

By ANDREW SOUTAR

The Beginning of the Story.

"You are leaving prison to-day!" the governor tells James Arling, the ex-bank clerk.

There had been a miscarriage of justice—a woman had confessed to the affair at the bank for which he was sentenced.

Arling's aim in life is to have revenge on the men who had ruined his career. He changes his name to Adam Stone, and a few years later becomes partner in a great engineering company.

Stone forms an organisation of expert detectives to search for his daughter Joan, now nine years of age. He receives a message that two children—one named Joan, who answers the description of the missing girl—are at one of his houses, the Red Grange.

The bank robbery was the joint work of Bikkerstaffe, the cashier, and two men named Darrell and Weerd. Later, Weerd receives six months' imprisonment for theft. Stone interviews Weerd in prison, but is unable to obtain any helpful information.

Stone meets Madame Poillard, a woman of extraordinary beauty, and discovers that she is the companion of Darrell, known to his associates as The Lynx.

Stone sets a trap to capture Darrell. One of his agents—Kerski—takes a room at the Belsteen Hotel, and lets it be known to Darrell that he is in possession of valuable jewels. Stone's agents are in the hotel when Darrell arrives and engages a room.

Number Thirteen.

IT was eleven o'clock when The Lynx went to his room, and, with a hand that was as steady as the ticking of a watch, wrote his instructions on the "slate" that he was to be called at six, and that he required tea. Then he went to his room.

He drew down the blind, but not so closely that the watchers in the other block, if they had crossed the corridor and were watching, could not follow his movements. He undressed, got into bed, waited a few minutes, then reached to the electric switch to turn out the light.

One hour! The Lynx crept out of bed, dressed himself, was careful to see that he carried everything that might be necessary, and . . . began the work of the night.

He opened the window, so slowly and cautiously that not a squeak was heard. He leaned out and felt for the lower girder of the footbridge. It was easily within arm's reach.

He had no intention of walking across the footbridge. He preferred to go hand over hand by way of the cross-girders, which were no more than a yard apart!

And there was a drop of eighty feet to the courtyard beneath!

But the ledge of Kerski's window was level with the girders of the footbridge.

The Lynx climbed out of his bedroom window, felt for the first girder, took a deep breath as though he were about to dive into a swimming bath, and began his perilous journey.

Hand over hand he went, unseen, for there was the blackness of night between his swinging body and the paving-stones of the courtyard. He was playing a desperate game, and was ready to take desperate chances.

It was when he was half-way across that he realised that he hadn't taken all the details into account on his first survey of the situation.

There was one cross-girder missing!

And, already, his iron muscles ached so terribly that he was wondering if he could reach the other side!

Only a flash of indecision. He felt for the side of the bridge, and moved along on the cornice, as it were.

And there was a drop of eighty feet if he made the slightest mistake, or if his fingers tired.

The weight of his body! He would not have credited the amount of strength that is required to hang for a minute. It requires really stout sinews and a stout heart to hang suspended by the fingers for one minute.

"Marietta!" He had caught hold of the next girder, and he whispered her name in gratitude.

On! He touched the sill of Kerski's window. Now had the most crucial moment arrived! If Kerski should be in his room, and should come to grips with him before he could draw himself on to the sill—well, there was a drop of eighty feet to the courtyard below, and any hotel guest would be justified in relying on the old framing of the law which holds that self-preservation is the first law of nature.

The Lynx heard the door opened and closed, but there was no other sound to indicate whether Kerski had left the room or entered it. And the strength of the clinging man was beginning to fail. He decided to take a risk.

The window was partially open. And Kerski had temporarily left the room, leaving the work of observation to the other agents in the corridor.

The Lynx climbed into the room, drew down the blind, and placed himself flat against the wall to the right of the door, for he heard a footstep in the corridor. The door was opened a few inches. There was a pause. The Lynx heard the man at the door whisper across the corridor—

"Any luck?"

"Not yet," came the answering whisper.

"It's early," said Kerski, and came into the room. He reached for the switch as he came, closing the door after him, and before he could flood the room with light.

The Lynx moved noiselessly with the door, so that now his back was towards it. Kerski turned on the light.

"Don't open your lips!" said The Lynx.

Kerski's chin was less than a foot from the muzzle of the revolver levelled by the cleverest and most daring rascal in Europe!

The Lynx at Work.

"I should hate to shoot, my dear Kerski, since it might attract the attention of your friends in the corridor. Take the sheet from the bed. Please don't waste a second of time. If you compel me to shoot, I shall have to take my chance."

Kerski was in nowise a coward, but a revolver in the hands of a desperate rogue is a supreme test of courage in the man who happens to be unarmed. He half-turned and drew a sheet from the bed. He did it slowly. Martins had promised to look in if The Lynx did not appear in the corridor before a certain hour.

"Now, hold up the sheet by one corner; give one corner to me. Good! You are guessing at my intention. Mark well the scheme, my friend; you will not be the first man to pick up a wrinkle from me."

Kerski held the corner of the sheet as instructed, and The Lynx held the other. It was as though, between them, they were holding up a screen for a magic-lantern entertainment.

"Now place the corner on your right shoulder, hold it firmly, then revolve slowly towards me. Ah! You get the idea?"

The Lynx laughed softly as Kerski began to turn, folding himself in the sheet as he turned.

The rest was easy. The Lynx slipped a handkerchief into the man's mouth, effectually gagging him. With strength that was phenomenal, he lifted the bound man on the bed.

"I want those rubies of yours," he whispered—whispered quite pleasantly.

Because of the gag, Kerski could do no more than turn his eyes in the direction of the door. How he longed for Martins!

On the chair, at the foot of the bed, rested a portmanteau. The Lynx turned the key in the bedroom door, "apologising" to Kerski for having delayed taking that precaution. Then he opened the portmanteau, removed the black oblong box, glanced hurriedly at the contents, and thrust the thing into his pocket. A footstep sounded in the corridor. The Lynx inclined his head to the door and listened intently.

"Your friends are restive," he observed. "Forgive me, won't you?" He tore down the cord of a picture hanging on the wall, and made more secure the bonds that held Kerski. This done, he drew again the revolver, and, standing at the foot of the bed, addressed the captive—

"I detest firearms," he said, shrugging his shoulders, "they are so vulgar. Used only by the canaille of the profession. Doubtless you will explain to the authorities that you were brutally attacked by an armed thief, who held a revolver to your head . . . and all the rest of it. I have some knowledge of the gross stupidity of authorities, my dear sir, and you will find that stupid people are the most suspicious. You may keep the revolver as a memento, but if you value your good name and any reputation you have for abstemiousness, you will not be in any hurry to give them ocular proof of that brutal attack by an armed man."

The Lynx pressed the butt of the revolver, and from the muzzle there jutted out—a paper fan! With a light laugh he flung the thing on the bed beside Kerski, turned out the lights, and, saying "Good-night" with exaggerated politeness, climbed through the window and began the perilous return journey to his room by way of the cross-stays or girders of the bridge.

Kerski tried to roll from the bed with the intention of reaching the door, but The Lynx had fastened the cord to the end of the bed, and the "winding sheet" effectually confined the victim's arms.

Half-way across the bridge, the Lynx, swinging like a pendulum, with an eighty-feet drop beneath him, had an uncomfortable experience. One of his dress shoes was very loose, and, in swinging along, he kicked the heel of one foot with the toe of the other. The shoe fell off. He paused, suspended, for half a second. There came to him the crash of breaking glass as the shoe reached the bottom.

"Careless of me," he muttered calmly. "I certainly did not observe a conservatory down there when I looked from the window."

He resumed his 'handwork," and, at last, with a faint sigh of relief, reached his own window and passed into the room.

It was from this point that he had to quicken his movements as never before. He had tied Kerski securely, but there was always the chance of a servant knocking at the door, and, getting no answer and finding the room locked, giving an alarm. The Lynx did not for a moment suspect that Kerski was the servant of Adam Stone; he believed that the man was a dealer in jewels, and took the precaution of engaging the services of detectives to guard his room while he slept.

It was necessary to get away from the hotel without delay, but to have put on his hat and coat and walked to the hall would have been worthy of brains only of the canaille of the profession. He left his portmanteau—it contained nothing of greater value than a twenty-eight pound weight—and he said goodbye to his overcoat and hat. He lit a cigar, sauntered lazily to the lift, rang for the attendant, stepped into the cage, and——

"Stuffy night, porter."

"Slightly, sir."

"Whew! Must have a breath of air before I turn in."

The night porter glanced down. The Lynx was lacking a shoe.

"Corns," he said, with a laugh. "Special treatment. Nobody about, I suppose—nobody to object, I mean?"

"That's all right, sir. I've let gents sit in the hall in their pyjamas during the hot nights."

"You should be a treasure to this hotel." The Lynx slipped a coin into the porter's hand. "You can let me out and in again, I suppose?"

"Sure," said the porter. "How long are you likely to be?"

"Ten minutes—no more. Just a stroll along the street in the cool."

The porter let him out of the main entrance and closed the door.

Kerski managed to roll from the bed, but the cord cut his ankles.

Outside the hotel, The Lynx walked slowly for a few yards, then quickened his pace.

Kerski struggled until he got one arm free. He tore the gag from his mouth and shouted, "Martins!"

A taxi-cab came slowly along the street. The Lynx whistled; the man drove slowly up to the pavement.

"Half-an-hour, just for a breather," said The Lynx coolly.

"'Tis hot, sir. Where to?"

"Try Regent Park."

"Right!" The taxi-cab moved away.

Inside the hotel, Martins, on the alert, rushed to Kerski's door just as the key was turned.

"No luck?" Martins whispered.

"The worst—he's gone."

"Not a soul has passed along the corridor."

"He came through the window."

Martins ran to the open window.

"Impossible," he retorted. "Think of the drop. How could he get in here?"

Kerski told him as well as he was able. The other agents came into the room; all made for the open bye-way of the emergency exit indicated by Adam Stone.

Too late! The Lynx was nearing Regent's Park about the time that Martins was questioning the night porter about any guest who might have left the hotel.

"Driver! I fancy I have a friend living in this terrace. Number ten. Can you see a light in the windows?"

"There is a light, sir."

"That's the one. I daresay that Sir Archibald is keeping late hours. You may go." He gave the man a liberal fare, waited till the car was out of sight, then walked a hundred yards till he reached his flat.

Marietta was sitting up for him. She was wearing a dainty dressing-gown of white and lilac; her feet were incased by purple satin slippers. When she heard his tap at the door she uttered a cry of joy, and ran to admit him.

"My Charles!"

"Tired, Marietta—only tired."

She led the way into the snuggery, placed an armchair in position, and urged him to be seated. Then she knelt so that she might remove his shoes.

"Charles! You have lost one!"

"There are more in the world, darling. . . . Head aches slightly. Must have been that last cigar."

She hurried away for eau de cologne and began to bathe his forehead and temples.

"By the way, darling"—he turned his head from her hand so that he might see her eyes—"I have mislaid my coat and portmanteau. Understand that I do not own them from to-night."

"Of course, Charles mine."

She was all impatience to hear the full story of the night's adventure, but she knew him too well to force the conversation. It came presently. A smile began to break over his face. He nodded in a self-satisfied way; conceit turned back the thin lips.

"Marietta"—he closed his eyes—"when they succeed in beating Charles Darrell, Esquire, they have nothing to fear about the—the gentleman who is supposed to represent all the tricks." He inverted a thumb. "Kerski had taken elaborate precautions."

"Never!" A pallor came over her cheeks; she had believed that Kerski was conceited in the belief that he knew how to take care of himself—believed that he was not likely to take any precautions.

The Lynx laughed softly. "The place was full of 'splits,' my dear. You could positively smell detectives in the corridor."

Then, slowly, and with a perfect sense of the dramatic, he described the events of the night, finishing with the flourish—

"They have my portmanteau, Marietta; they have my coat, and, alas! they have my shoe. But Charles is left with the rubies!"

She cried out in delight. "You have them! My wonderful Charles!"

"One moment." He drew the oblong box from his tail pocket. Before he opened the lid he looked at her as a fond lover might look at his sweetheart, and, with all the infantile mannerisms and babyish talk of the same lover, he said—

"How much will oos give me for this?"

She loved him passionately when he was in this mood.

"I'll give oo sixpence," she said.

He opened the box, looked at the rubies—looked so long that the smile died on her lips; and then he said, very slowly and deliberately—

"Yes, by ——! And that's all they're worth!"

Just for a few seconds there was one of those silences which have been described as "absolutely noisy." Then The Lynx said, with a certain grimness—"Let me have a look at the one Stone gave you."

She hastened to her room and returned with the jewel which Adam Stone had selected from the box and presented to her. The Lynx turned it over and over in his hand, held it to the light, breathed on, touched it with the tip of his tongue. And he said—

"My dear girl, the hand of Stone is in this job. That ruby is perfect. The others are the cheapest of fake!"

She fell on her knees at his feet, tearful protestations breaking from her lips. In all his life The Lynx was never so splendid as in that minute.

He knew that she was bordering on hysteria; he knew that she had been fooled. And he knew, also, that a cleverer woman would have been fooled in the circumstances. He had passed through a great adventure; he had risked his life when he crawled, hand over hand, across the girders of that footbridge, but—he was not going to let her break her heart because of the fooling.

"Say, kiddy! It was big fun. But I gave two guineas for those shoes!"

Laughter broke through her tears.

The Lynx had a big side to his nature.

His Child.

Outside the Belsteen Hotel, and even as The Lynx stretched himself in his chair in that luxurious flat of his, the agents of Adam Stone foregathered. They had received no assistance from the porter; he could tell them only of a guest who had gone for a walk in order that he might stretch himself before "turning in."

Martins, who was the most astute of all the agents, was sufficiently wide-awake to realise that The Lynx had eluded them. True, he had fallen into the trap—the trap of the sham rubies. But he had got away with the bait, no matter what it was worth. Martins gave the order "Home!" and the men dispersed. They gathered from his frown that they had been beaten, and, although he made some caustic remark about engaging the services of a few boy scouts the next time, they went away fully cognisant of the fact that Martins felt as cheap as any one of them.

And while they were making their way homeward, Adam Stone was racing toward the south. He should have reached his country house within the hour, but every obstacle known to a motorist raised itself that night. It was late, very late, when, at last, they reached the lodge gates.

And who shall say what were the emotions that stirred Adam Stone during that drive? From the moment when he received the telephonic message his nerves had been working so that his whole body quivered like a tree in a storm. His child had been found! His Joan, the child of whom he and his beloved wife had dreamed, the child he had been seeking for all these weary years! Strange are the workings of the human brain. Although the car was driven at a speed so great as to endanger the lives of driver and owner, Adam Stone yet had time and nerve and strength to build up a future for the child. Not for one second did he allow himself to doubt that this was his Joan whom Fate had guided to her father's house for sanctuary.

The lodgekeeper was in bed.

"Shout! Shout!" cried Adam Stone to the driver. "Throw a stone at the window! Wake him up!"

Within a few minutes the gates were flung open. The old lodgekeeper said to his wife when he returned—

"It's the first time the master has passed me without saying 'Good-night'! There be something wrong. I wonder what it is?"

The car rushed down the winding drive. Mitchell, the driver, was wondering, like the lodgekeeper, what had brought the master down in such haste. He brought the car to a stop at the hall door. The old butler pulled back the bolts, a flood of light poured out from the hall. Adam Stone, flinging aside all dignity, all sense of convention, placed his hands on the butler's shoulder, and breathed huskily—

"God grant that it be true! My child—my child!"

The old butler seemed to understand all that was raging in the mind of the master.

"Forgive me, sir," he said, quietly and soothingly. "Try to fortify yourself against a mistake. If this child is the child for whom we have been seeking, thank God for it. If I have made a mistake, or raised your hopes so high that——"

"There can be no mistake," said Adam Stone quickly and nervously. "Where are they—the two children?"

"They are asleep," said the old butler. "Margaret took them upstairs."

"But I must see them at once."

"Yes, yes," said the butler. "Margaret sleeps in the room adjoining. Follow me, sir, but don't raise your voice. They are asleep, and"—the butler's voice was stupidly childish—"I wouldn't wake them for the world. They are like two angels, sir."

"Softly," said Adam Stone; "softly!"

They tiptoed up the stairs; they reached the door of the bedroom. The butler opened the door so quietly that even Adam Stone, whose nerves were on edge, did not hear the turn of the latch.

The two men passed into the room. There were two little beds, side by side. Margaret had arranged them. Between the two was a tiny table, on which rested the remains of the last repast of the day. The boy, Tony, was lying with his face turned to the window; on the other bed lay Joan, her left cheek pillowed on her hand; her hair, all tumbled, was damp, for the night was hot.

Adam Stone crept silently to the side of the bed, and looked long and lovingly at the child's face.

"My child!" he whispered.

The old butler turned his back; for Adam Stone was kneeling, and his eyes were closed as in prayer.

You will find another instalment of this story next week. Do not miss it.

ABERDEEN OFFICER FALLS.

Lieutenant Norman James Gibson, Gordon Highlanders, who has been killed, is the youngest son of Mr William Gibson, retired railway agent, 348 Great Western Road, Aberdeen, and formerly of Dundee and Arbroath. He was twenty-four years of age.

NO MORE ASTHMA

Every Asthma sufferer should know that Potter's Asthma Cure gives instant relief. The moment you inhale it the strangling coughing stops, and you can breathe easily.

POTTER'S Asthma Cure

is the best remedy for bronchitis of children. Have you been a victim to asthma and bronchitis for years? If so, keep a tin handy always when required. Attacks will be prevented and peaceful sleep ensured. So that you may prove its value, accept Free Trial at once.

Fill up form and receive Free Trial of Potter's Asthma Cure, and a free book "Are you Asthmatic?" telling all about the cause, prevention and cure of asthma and bronchitis. Potter's Asthma Cure is supplied by chemists, herbalists and stores for 1/3.

Sign this Form To-day

To Potter & Clarke, Ltd., 60 Artillery Lane, London, E1. Please send Free Trial of Potter's Asthma Cure.

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ADDRESS.....

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CUSTARD PUDDING
Ever tasted the finest Custard Pudding?
Sold by all Grocers and Stores in 1½d. 7d. and 1/2 packets and in large airtight tins, 1/4.
B. K. PORTER & CO., GLASGOW.

FOR SLUGGISH, CONGESTED LIVER AND BILIOUSNESS.

TRAINED NURSE ADVISES USE OF ALKALINE SALTRATES, AND TELLS WHY ORDINARY SALINES FAIL.

By *ALICE LANDLES, Certified Nurse.*

Contrary to common belief such drastic purgatives as Epsom, Rochelle or other "morning salts" and powders as generally used have practically no effect upon the liver. They produce a strong superficial action by passing straight through to the lower bowels almost immediately, and flushing out the important digestive juices, thus storing up future trouble, as anyone knows who has tried them. When the saline water is not absorbed or assimilated by the stomach or intestines at all it of course cannot reach the liver, and this accounts for so many of my patients saying ordinary salts proved worthless for their liver disorders. I do not advise the "pill habit" as a last resort, for in a few small pills are powerful enough to affect the entire contents of the intestines, they must be strong enough to produce an exceedingly harmful reaction

My invariable advice to chronic constipation sufferers is to drink two or three times during the day (*not* before breakfast) a tumbler of water in which has been dissolved a teaspoonful of any strongly *alkaline* saltrates. The ordinary refined Alkis Saltrates will prove an excellent compound for the purpose. Any chemist can supply a few ounces of this at small cost, or easily get it for you, and it will clear out a clogged liver or regulate the bile flow more quickly that anything I know of, this being on account of the extreme rapidity with which it is absorbed. This water is pleasant to drink, has no salty taste, and you cannot drink too much of it. I have never noticed any but excellent after-effects, and results have always proved permanent.

Foster Clark's

You simply add water

2d Soups

PERSONALITIES IN THE LIMELIGHT AND GOSSIP OF THE HOUR

Exclusively Written For "The Post Sunday Special."

ncering the Maimed.

t is pleasing to note how attentive every- to the maimed heroes we meet so tly nowadays in our streets, and a word of praise in this connection ld be given to the girl conductors on the cars.

dinburgh Councillor and Parliament.

Councillor W. Graham, who is to oppose r C. Price, M.P., at the next general is one of the most respected members of Edinburgh Town Coun- Mr Graham started his career as a t in the Borders.

rousing at Home.

I asked a soldier newly back from the what now the boys were doing in France. his reply:—"Oh, everybody's there. I heard no grousing till I came home and heard people threatening mutiny if they cannot get butter!"

rave Orphan Boys.

Major-General Chetwode, who has just ut £100 to the Aberlour Orphanage, r three boys, has borne the heat and burden battle against the Hun. Frequently mentioned in despatches, he played a heroic part with "The Old Contemptibles." No fewer than 158 of the old boys of the Orphanage are with the colours, and 36 have "gone west."

Ben Nevis" in Flanders.

Following the example of our soldiers members of the Waacs in France are ornamenting their huts and landmarks in the neighbourhood of the camps with home names. The results are frequently very humorous. Thus one large hut is known as Paradise Lost, whilst a piece of very much war-scarred landscape close by is called Ben Nevis.

terested in Food Control.

Mrs H. Robertson has been appointed a member of the Food Control Committee for the burgh of Hamilton. In addition she is a member of the Naval and Military Pensions Committee, and is a prominent and unring worker on behalf of the Housing Association.

Cheer for the Kiddies.

The Food Controller notwithstanding, the bairns' Christmas soirees are to be on the pre-war basis so far as tea is concerned. But the letter of our voluntary law is not being broken, for the teachers are pinching themselves in order to provide the necessary tea and sugar.

An Uncertain Menu.

A Rothesay soldier in the A. and S.H. rather humorously states that one disadvantage of being "in the forefront of the battle" in the Balkans is that of late he has seen "many more dinner-times than dinners!" The boys in the front line trenches in that wild region are not always sure of the regular arrival of their daily rations.

Munitioneers' Whist.

A canteen worker tells me that one result of the influx of women into our munition factories will be an increase in the popularity of whist. Thousands of girls who have forsaken novels and chocolates to help at the lathe now spend part of their lunch time playing that game.

The Gotha in Full View.

I wonder how many people have actually seen a Gotha raider. One of them got in the converging rays of four or five searchlights in a certain part of England, and I had no difficulty in picking out his outline. The anti-aircraft gunners were busy during this time, and from what I saw I am of opinion that if this was not one of the machines brought down the occupants of it won't have any nerves left to make another trip over here.

A Lifetime in a Caravan.

Buff Bill, who is presenting Miss Baker in a den of performing lions as a side show at the Edinburgh Carnival, is probably the oldest show-man on the road in this country now. He is going on to the three score years and ten, and has practically spent them all in a caravan. He was born in one. His parents were well-known show people.

Has Certainly Done His Bit.

There is not a remote village in the four countries of the kingdom in which Buff Bill and his show have not been seen, but the war has dealt hardly with him. His three sons are fighting in France. Twenty of his company are in the army, and out of a hundred horses he has now only 14 left, a large number of the stock having also been "called up." Miss Baker, who does some dare-devil work amongst the lions, is a member of another English circus family, whose name half a century ago was familiar in the towns and villages all over.

A Postman's Overcoat.

The economy campaign has extended to our Government servants. This is no exaggeration at all, but sober truth. There is a lone postman in the Highlands. His round means a drive of over 30 miles daily. Frequently he has to ford his way through floods. For over two years this man has awaited a promised "uniform" overcoat.

Four Shillings.

Then one day he was told no overcoats could be issued, but he was to report next day to receive the allowance made in lieu. When he did so the local postmaster handed him a leaflet giving details of the type of overcoat most suitable and—four shillings Government allowance to buy it with.

National Dress.

Lady Reid, Aboyne (a daughter of Sir David Stewart of Banchory), is advocating the resuscitation of national dress for Scottish women—home-spun material dyed from the native heather.

Christmas at Home This Year.

The Earl of Stair, who came up to town to attend the gathering of the Old Contemptibles, is now back at Castle Kennedy, where he will spend Christmas. When I saw him at the Albert Hall he was chatting with one of his old comrades of the Scots Guards, and looking quite different to what he appeared on the night I saw him arrive from Switzerland after his release by the Huns.

For the P.C.C.S.

Photo by Lafayette.

Miss Margaret Hopkins has arranged the dances for "Golden Glory" and other fantasies to be performed next week at the Athenæum Hall in aid of the funds for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children. The author of "Golden Glory" is Christine Dalziel Hamilton, while the music is by Miss Mary E. Watt, both well-known Glasgow ladies.

And in These Days of Food Shortage, Too.

A London friend received a packet of oat cakes for a present from the North. He was not very grateful. He described them as "concentrated bird-seed."

Rough on Kaiser Bill.

Two German women recently placed on the Berlin monument of Frederick the Great a wreath with the inscription, "Your country needs you." Very rough on the Kaiser, isn't it?

The Truth from Russia.

I hear the first authentic pictures of the actual Russian debacle and Petrograd rioting will be over here in a few weeks' time. They were taken by an American film operator, who was wounded three times whilst photographing the scenes in Petrograd during the upheaval.

More Than One Turkey Lamenting!

That our gallant lads in Mesopotamia have not been forgetting about Christmas and New Year is evidenced by a very neat greeting card I received during the week. Dated November 1, this greeting shows two Mesopotamian Expeditionary Force medals and no fewer than 27 bars with the names of the various victorious engagements from Basrah down to Ramadie.

But it is the verse that tickles. Here it is:—

This medal of ours, with its ribbon and bars,
Tells of crushing defeats of the Crescents and Stars;
'Tis a pleasant reminder to friends far away
That more than one Turkey is rueing "The Day."

Very pat indeed, isn't it?

A Plucky V.A.D.

Congratulations to Miss Barbara England, the plucky V.A.D. nurse, on her marriage to Captain M'Callum, of the Australian forces. Miss England, who till recently lived at Kelvinside, Glasgow, comes of a fighting stock, and no fewer than five of her uncles hold commands in the army. Her father was killed in the Boer War.

Films to Win Elections.

I hear that at least one political party who hope to win several Scottish seats when the election comes are arranging to add films to their armoury.

Uncle Sam Means Business.

A prominent Scotsman who has visited every part of the British front tells me that the Germans out there are living in mortal dread of meeting the Americans. Prisoners taken during the last few weeks do not hesitate to express their opinion that Uncle Sam means business.

To Train Munition Workers.

Governors of the Royal Technical College in Glasgow have been looking for an officer to take charge of munition work. His duties will be to see that manufacturers are supplied with trained workers. They have accordingly applied to the Government for the release of Mr John H Sinclair, who in peaceful days was lecturer in engineering drawing. For a time he has been engaged with the Motor Machine Gun Section.

"It's an Ill Wind——."

A humorously-veined correspondent suggests that the married man who does not keep good hours can now preserve domestic peace by producing a ½ lb. of butter, making his excuse all the better by adding that it has taken a long time to secure it.

"The Bad Lot."

Glasgow folks are surely being well provided for with Christmas fare. There will be half-a-dozen pantomimes going full swing during the week. At the Coliseum "The Forty Thieves" hold sway. The leader of this bold, bad lot is our old friend, George Formby, and his dare-devil exploits as the Terrible John Willie Hassazac are a perfect scream. George tells me he likes his part immensely, as it gives him plenty of scope for his 'bloodthirstiness."

East Renfrewshire M.P.

Photo by Lafayette.

Colonel J. Gilmour, M.P., who has been awarded the D.S.O., is the eldest son of Sir John and Lady Gilmour of Montraive. He served through the whole of the South African War with the Yeomanry, and during the present war he has seen a good deal of active service.

Gift to Scottish Red Cross.

Hazelwood House, which has just been presented to the Scottish Red Cross Society, is a commodious mansion in the Ibrox district of Glasgow. The donor, Mr J. B. Shanks, is a prominent merchant in the city whose wife manifests a keen interest in the welfare of the soldiers at Bellahouston Hospital. The house is eminently adapted for a convalescent home.

The German Gamble.

I had a chat the other evening with Mr H. J. Darnton Fraser, of Edinburgh, who has rendered important service to America in the Fatherland. Before leaving Germany he had a conversation with Admiral Suchon, commander of the German and Turkish fleets in the Dardanelles. This is what he said:—"We can drive Russia out of the war. We can beat France, but we can neither beat nor break Britain. Neither can Britain break Germany. Therefore, let the two great nations shake hands and be friends." "That is what the Kaiser is gambling for now," remarked Mr Fraser, "and he is being ably supported by the pacifist gang in this country."

LEADING THEATRICAL LIGHTS

APPEARING IN SCOTLAND THIS WEEK.

(1) Bert Williams, ventriloquist, at the Glasgow Empire; (2) George Formby, in "Forty Thieves," at the Glasgow Coliseum; (3) Mary Connolly, vocalist, at the Gaiety Theatre, Leith; (4) Lily Morris, principal boy in "Jack and the Beanstalk," at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh; (5) Bruce Green as Martha the Cook in "Dick Whittington," at the Glasgow Alhambra; (6) Charles Morritt, illusionist, at the King's Theatre, Dundee; (7) Alfred Wellesley, in "Cinderella," at the Theatre, Royal, Glasgow.

A Scottish Prospective Bride.

The engagement is announced of Lieut. Eric Coleby, Army Transport Service, younger son of the Rev. Frank Coleby and Mrs Coleby, Charlestown Vicarage, St Austell, Cornwall, and Evelyn Norah, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Charles Watson, of Greencroft, Annan, Dumfriesshire.

A Breezy Mariner.

Lieutenant Coney, R.N., who is connected with the Clyde Defences, is performing a splendid work in organising entertainments in camp and garrison. As a civilian Lieutenant Coney is teacher of navigation in the James Watt Technical School, Greenock. A big, breezy mariner, in the prime of life, he has been all over the world with wind-jammer and steamship, and his one regret at the moment is the Admiralty decree that he should remain on coast defence.

Not Afraid of the Hun Officer's Bluff.

Jose de Moraes, the Portuguese tenor, who was singing in Edinburgh last week, is a great personal friend of ex-King Manuel, who himself is an accomplished pianist. One of the ex-King's greatest pleasures since coming into exile is a musical evening with his fellow countryman and distinguished tenor. An ardent supporter of the Allies, Jose had an exciting experience in Germany at the outbreak of war. He happened to be touring in that country, and whilst in a Berlin restaurant a German officer, hearing the singer speaking English, deliberately upset a cup of coffee over the dress of an English lady vocalist who happened to be sitting near him. Jose in a minute retaliated with the contents of a of water in the officer's face. The officer was at first indignant and was to be appeased with nothing less than a duel, but, when he saw that Jose was not afraid of his bluster, allowed himself to be dragged away by his friends.

The Food Beverage for all War Workers.

Vi-Cocoa

At NOBLE'S

Choose your garments carefully and economically. In Noble's splendid selection you will find a style to suit all your requirements at a price to suit your purse.

Model F 3189 **22'6**

A NEW TUNIC DRESS made in Light Navy, Brown and Black Gaberdine Cloth. The Tunic is effectively designed with square neck, sailor collar and pockets. Four-gore Skirt. In stock sizes to fit

Bust	Waist	Front Skirt Length
34 ins.	24 ins.	34 ins. - 39 ins.
36 ins.	26 ins.	36 ins. 39 ins.
38 ins.	28 ins.	36 ins. 40 ins.

Price 22/6. Patterns free.

If made specially to measure, price 26/-

Write now for Noble's Free Sale Book.

Materials by the Yard.

For ladies who prefer to have their clothes made up themselves, John Noble, Ltd., will send a selection of materials post free. Please tell us what you would like new.

JOHN NOBLE, LTD.
Brook St. Mills, MANCHESTER.

WANTED TO PURCHASE.

Mole Trappers, Gamekeepers, Marine Store Dealers and Others.
SEEK SAFETY FIRST.

HAVE you joined our ever-increasing Army of Satisfied Trappers, who consign their MOLE, OTTER, HARE, RABBIT and CAT SKINS ... also PHEASANT TAILS, FEATHERS, HAIR, HORSEHAIR, &c., &c.? If not, why

New Customers Enrolled Daily.
Best Prices and Prompt Payments Guaranteed. Latest Price-List Now Ready. Write us before sending elsewhere.
Note Our Only Address:—
WATSON & CO., PIONEERS of the MOLE Industry, OLDEST and LARGEST CASH BUYERS in the WORLD Newcastle Street, London, E.C.4 (Dept. H.O.). Bankers: Capital and Counties, Ludgate Hill. Telephone: Central 5317.

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DESMOND & CO. are now paying record prices for MOLE SKINS. Full Furred Winter Skins, 65/- per hundred; second quality, 45/-. Buyers of FOX, OTTER, BADGER, CAT, and RABBIT SKINS. Remittance by return of post. Price List now ready. Oldest and most reliable firm in the trade.
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Manor Park, London E.12.

EMPIRE,
GLASGOW
6.45—TWICE NIGHTLY—9.0.
The Greatest Musical Sensation of the Day.
G. T. PATTMAN
and his £3000 Organ, Assisted by Miss DOROTHIE SQUIRE (Contralto) of the Leading London Concerts; MARIE KAY, BERT WILLIAMS, SAM KELLY, and RENA & MERRILL, HARRY BEDFORD, THE FIVE WARTONS.
GRAND HOLIDAY MATINEES — Tuesday (Xmas Day) Wednesday (Boxing Day), 2.30.
Box Office, 10.30 to 5.30, and 6.30 to 9.30.
'Phones 3751-2 Douglas.

COLISEUM THEATRE,
GLASGOW
6.45—TWICE EVERY EVENING—9.0.
Mr HARRY BURNS Presents
GEORGE FORMBY,
as the Terrible HASSARAC,
In the GRAND CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME,
THE FORTY THIEVES,
Written and Composed by Mr Harry Curwen.
CAST.—Ganem, Lil Baba's Son, Maude Esmond; Morgiana, a Beautiful Slave, Winnie Collins; Ali Baba, a poor Woodcutter, Edmond Edmunds; Cogia, his Wife, Fred Lloyd; &c. The Four Sunshine Girls, and the Beautiful Forty Thieves. All the Latest Songs Hits, by kind permission of Herman Darewski & Co. Francis Hunter & Co. and Bert Feldman & Co.
Saturdays, 3 Performances—3.45-6.45-9.0.
Booking Office Open All Day, 10.30-9.30.
'Phones—Manager, 230 South. Booking 1501 Cent.

THEATRE ROYAL,
GLASGOW
HOWARD & WYNDHAM'S
THIRTY-FIRST "ROYAL" PANTOMIME,
"CINDERELLA."
NIGHTLY at 7. MATINEES, at 2.
Cast includes:—
DAISY DORMER.

MARIE BRAYMAN.	JIMMIE PULLIN.
MONA MAGNET.	ALFRED WELLESLEY.
EDITH BLANDE.	FRED LAMP.
RAY FIDDIS.	GEORGE GREEN.
NORA STOCKFIELD.	WILLIE BLACK.
EDITH WILLIAMS.	HILDA GLYNN.
LYDIA and FRANCIS.	THE SIX MERRY MACS.

WALKER'S TALENTED JUVENILES.
MATINEES at 2.
WED. 19th; SAT. 22d; TUES. 25th (XMAS DAY); WED. 26th; and SAT. 29th DEC.
And EVERY DAY DURING NEW YEAR WEEK.
NO INCREASE IN PRICES.
Stalls, 5s; Dress Circle, 4s; Family Circle, 3s (plus Tax).
Box Plans (for Performances up to Jan. 5th) Now Open at Theatre (10 to 6) or at Ewing & M'Intosh, Musicsellers, 331 Sauchiehall Street (10 to 4). Booking by Phone suspended pro tem.

KING'S THEATRE,
DUNDEE.
TWICE NIGHTLY at 7 and 9.
MONDAY, Dec. 24, 1917.
THE MYSTERY MAN,
MORRITT,
with his Latest Sensation,
WAL LANGTRY,
Dry and Droll Comedian,
AND FIRST-CLASS VAUDEVILLE.
Box Office, 11 to 4, 6 to 10. 'Phone 1930.

LA SCALA,
'PHONE 384 30 MURRAYGATE, DUNDEE.
MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY,
December 24, 25, 26.
MARY PICKFORD
IN
"POOR LITTLE RICH GIRL."
THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY,
December 27, 28, 29
MARGUERITE CLARK
IN
"SNOW WHITE."
NOTICE.—LA SCALA will be Open from 11 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 29th, also on Monday, Dec. 31st, Tuesday and Wednesday, Jan. 1st and 2d.

ELECTRIC THEATRE, NETHERGATE, DUNDEE.
Week Commencing 24th DEC., 1917.—Showing MON., TUES., and WED., DIANA and DESTINY, from the Famous Novel, in 5 Acts. Also, "THE FOG OF DEATH," 5 Acts.
Showing THURS., FRI., and SAT., ARTHUR MAUDE in "THE INNER STRUGGLE," Bolton's Mutual Masterpiece, 4 Acts. Also, "THE DESPOILERS," 3 Acts.
Look Out for Grand New Year Programme.

SHAND'S PICTURE HOUSE,
SHEPHERD'S LOAN, DUNDEE.
GRAND CHRISTMAS PROGRAMME.
Open on Christmas Day at 2.30.
Showing—
PHYLLIS BEDELLS in "FAIRYLAND,"
First Time in Scotland. Also,
"THE PERILS OF DIVORCE," in 5 Acts.
THURSDAY—
Charles Garvice's Novel, "A FAIR IMPOSTOR." Also, CHARLES CHAPLIN in "THE COUNT."
All Perth Road Cars Stop at Shepherd's Loan.

CELTIC STILL AT THE TOP AND GOING WELL

RESULTS AT A GLANCE.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

HAMILTON ACAD.,	2	MORTON, ...	1
THIRD LANARK, ..	0	RANGERS, ...	1
CELTIC, ...	3	DUMBARTON, ...	0
PARTICK THIS., ..	5	QUEEN'S PARK, ..	1
HEARTS, ...	0	MOTHERWELL, ..	1
AIRDRIEONIANS,	4	AYR UNITED, ...	1
KILMARNOCK, ...	4	CLYDEBANK, ...	2
ST MIRREN, ...	0	CLYDE, ...	1
FALKIRK, ...	2	HIBERNIAN, ...	2

WESTERN CUP.

RENTON, ...	1	ALBION ROVERS,	0
JOHNSTONE, ...	2	STEVENSTON U., ..	0
D'MBARTON HARP,	3	ABERCORN, ...	0
VALE OF LEVEN,	0	ARTHURLIE, ...	3

EASTERN LEAGUE.

DUNDEE HIBS, ...	1	COWDENBEATH, ..	6
RAITH ROVERS, ..	1	DUNFERMLINE A.,	2

ENGLISH LEAGUE.

Lancashire Section.

MANCHESTER C.,	1	BLACKBURN R., ..	0
BOLTON WAN., ..	0	BURSLEM P.V., ...	2
LIVERPOOL, ...	3	OLDHAM ATH., ...	0
BURNLEY, ...	0	MANCHESTER U.,	5
SOUTHPORT C., ...	3	STOCKPORT CO., ..	2
STOKE, ...	1	BURY, ...	0
BLACKPOOL, ...	1	ROCHDALE, ...	3
PRESTON N.E., ...	0	EVERTON, ...	1

Midland Section.

NOTTS COUNTY, ..	8	GRIMSBY TOWN,	0
BIRMINGHAM, ...	2	BRADFORD CITY,	1
SHEFFIELD WED.,	3	ROTHERHAM C., ..	3
BARNSLEY, ...	3	SHEFFIELD U., ...	6
HULL CITY, ...	3	NOTTS FOREST, ...	2
BRADFORD, ...	1	LEICESTER FOSSE,	0
HUDDERSFIELD T.,	x	LINCOLN CITY, ..	x

London Combination.

CHELSEA, ...	6	MILLWALL, ...	2
CRYSTAL PALACE,	2	TOTTENHAM H., ..	3
BRENTFORD, ...	5	CLAPTON ORIENT,	0
THE ARSENAL, ..	3	Q.P. RANGERS, ..	0
WEST HAM UTD.,	0	FULHAM, ...	3

BELFAST AND DISTRICT CUP.

LINFIELD, ...	1	GLENTORAN, ...	0
BELFAST UTD., ..	2	DISTILLERY, ...	1
CLIFTONVILLE, ..	2	GLENAVON, ...	0

SCOTTISH JUNIOR CUP.

ST ANTHONY'S, 2 (M'Inally 2); CUMNOCK JUNIORS, 1 (Millar).

LANARKSHIRE CENTRAL CUP—Second Round.

NEWARTHILL THISTLE, x; BLANTYRE CELTIC, x.

GLASGOW JUNIOR LEAGUE.

PETERSHILL, 4 (Ferrier, M'Donald, Sommerville, and Russell); BELLSHILL ATHLETIC, 1 (Fleming).
BENBURB, 1 (Barr); GLASGOW PERTHSHIRE, 0.
VALE OF CLYDE, 3 (Simpson, Lawrie, and Goodwin); ROB ROY, 0.
GLENCAIRN, 2 (Cameron and M'Lean); ASHFIELD, 1 (Smith).
CLYDEBANK, 0; POLLOK, 3 (Stewart 2, Agnew 1).
LARKHALL THIS., 4 (M'Millan, Hart, M'Kenzie, and Williamson); CAMBUSLANG RAN., 0.
PARKHEAD, x; SHETTLESTON, x.
STRATHCLYDE, 3 (Bagan and Dougan); MARYHILL, 1 (Granger).

SCOTTISH JUNIOR LEAGUE.

OATLANDS JUNIORS, 0; BEDLAY, 2.
KILSYTH EMMET, 1 (Connolly); ST PAUL'S UNITED, 0.
YOKER ATHLETIC, 2 (Jackson and Reid); KILSYTH RANGERS, 0.
NEILSTON VICS., 1 (Torrance); BURNBANK ATHLETIC, 0.
PORT-GLASGOW JUNIORS, 6 (Deary 4, Dillon 1, Harden 1); BLANTYRE VICS., 0.
GLENBOIG CAMS., 0; RENFREW JUNIORS, 1.
CROY CELTIC, x; ST MIRREN JUNIORS, x.

ABERDEEN AND DISTRICT AMATEUR LEAGUE.

GORDON HIGHLANDERS, 2; FERRYHILL, 0.
RICHARD'S, LIMITED, 3; HALL, RUSSELL, & CO., 1.
THISTLE, 1; ROSE ATHLETIC, 1.
LINKSFIELD, 3; GLENWOOD, 1.
HARPER'S, LIMITED, 3; J. LEWIS & SON, 2.
LYONS, 5; TRAWLERS AND TRADERS, 1.
HILTON, 3; CARLTON, 0.
MUGIEMOSS, 2; ROYAL ALBERT, 1.
DUTHIE'S, x; HENDERSON'S ENGINEERS, x.

OTHER MATCHES.

ABERDEEN, 4; MILITARY XI., 3.
CLELAND JUNIORS, 1 (Iiernon); NETHERBURN, 0.

LANARKSHIRE JUNIORS AGAINST IRISH LEAGUE.

At a meeting of the Lanarkshire League held last night the following team was chosen to meet the Irish Intermediate League at Motherwell on 2d January:—M'Kissock (Newarthill); Stevenson (Morningside) and Cameron (Cleland Juniors); Connor (Netherburn), Henderson (Larkhall Thistle), and Tait (Bellshill Athletic); M'Caig (Law Volunteers), M'Nair (Blantyre Celtic), Wilson (Burnbank Athletic), Stannage (Burnbank Athletic), and Dailly (Blantyre Celtic). First reserve, Dougal (Cleland Juniors).

CHRISTMAS NAPS.

BY THE COLONEL.

LEOPARDSTOWN.

WEDNESDAY, December 26.—1.15—Arnot's selected; if absent, Lance Chest. 1.45—Blind Hookey, nap, if absent, Ornachus. 2.15—Pastures New, nap; if absent, Cellar Glen. 2.45—Irish Cheer, nap; if absent, Meridian. 3.15—Ravensthorpe, nap; if absent, Royal Signet. Nap Selection—Pastures New. Double—Pastures New and Blind Hookey.
THURSDAY, December 27.—1.15—Arnot's selected; if absent Partition. 1.45—Tom Berney, nap; if absent, Pastures New. 2.15—Fond Lucy, nap; if absent, Golcar. 2.45—Rathleague, nap; if absent, Spoil Five. 3.15—Fleeting Peace, nap; if absent, Submarine. Nap Selection—Tom Berney. Double—Tom Berney and Fleeting Peace.

LIMERICK.

WEDNESDAY, December 26.—1.15—Corrie, nap; if absent, La Somna. 1.45—Mozzel, nap; if absent, Hotcap. 2.15—Scotch Wolf, nap; if absent, Scartseen. 2.45—Menlo, nap; if absent, Glencarbry. 3.15—Pay Only, nap; if absent, The Baritone. Nap Selection—Scotch Wolf. Double—Scotch Wolf and Pay Only.

Queen's scored first at Firhill, and lost badly at the finish.

Clyde for inconsistency! They lost to St Mirren at Shawfield and won at Paisley.

TEMPLETON, Hibs.

GALLACHER'S GOALS THE FEATURE AT PARKHEAD.

HEARTS GET A TAKE-DOWN AT TYNECASTLE.

HOW MORTON CAME A CROPPER AT HAMILTON.

ORROCK, St Mirren.

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.

	P.	W.	L.	D.	Goals. F.	A.	Pts.
Celtic, ...	17	14	2	1	38	14	29
Kilmarnock, ...	19	13	4	2	45	20	28
Rangers, ...	17	12	2	3	36	14	27
Morton, ...	19	10	3	6	32	19	26
Partick Thistle, ...	18	9	2	7	30	12	25
Motherwell, ...	19	7	7	5	37	36	19
Airdrieonians, ...	19	8	9	2	31	34	18
Dumbarton, ...	19	8	9	2	28	30	18
Clydebank, ...	19	7	8	4	34	38	18
Hamilton Acad., ..	19	7	8	4	25	33	18
Queen's Park, ...	19	6	9	4	35	41	16
St Mirren, ...	19	6	9	4	24	28	16
Falkirk, ...	19	6	9	4	25	37	16
Clyde, ...	18	6	10	2	24	33	14
Hibernian, ...	19	4	9	6	26	33	14
Hearts, ...	19	6	12	1	16	38	13
Third Lanark, ...	19	4	11	4	26	34	12
Ayr United, ...	19	2	12	5	15	37	9

CELTS DOWN THE "SONS."

CELTIC, 3; DUMBARTON, 0.

Celts were never in danger with Dumbarton at Parkhead. Miller, the "Rockmen's" custodian, got through a hard afternoon's work, but he had to get down to M'Menemy's trickery and Gallagher's undoubted ability. Celts started with Wilson in place of M'Atee, but as the "half" was undoubtedly weak, the "Greens" changed their formation, and Joe Dodds was tried at centre. Though goals came after the change the line was not improved, as the popular Joe is no centre. The feature of the game was Patsy's goals. Pure grit carried him through for the double count. The "Sons" made quite a bright start, and Browning shivered the bar. An exciting passage came from a flag kick, M'Menemy, M'Lean, and Cringan having shots blocked en route. Cringan was the factor in Celts' attack and defence, and he stretched Miller with a real ripper. M'Nair and Dodds showed good understanding, and Brown brought up M'Culloch more than once when he was well placed. Celts claimed the balance, but failed to claim goals, and the first forty-five saw nothing done.

Celts reopened as they left off, and Miller was beaten in two minutes by M'Menemy. Then followed Patsy's great goal. He fastened on a pass from Dodds thirty yards out, cut in, beat all opposition, and swept into the net—a characteristic effort which brought down the "house." Patsy's second goal was much on the same lines. He romped through the defence, being bumped all the way, but he stuck on like a limpet, and finally scored a great goal. Dumbarton failed to take their opportunities, M'Culloch striking the post when he had all the chance to leave Shaw "weeping." Dodds failed to make good as a centre, and he missed pinches. Dumbarton all over failed to rise to their recent Shawfield form, and Celts merited their win. For Celts, Shaw was safe, M'Nair as safe as the War Loan, Cringan the stay of the middle line, while forward Gallagher was the most brilliant, with M'Menemy and Browning runners-up. Miller was Dumbarton's hope. M'Grory the outstanding back, Raeside the pick of the halves, while of a line that never got into their stride M'Culloch and Thom were the most conspicuous. Attendance, 3000. Scorers—M'Menemy 1, Gallagher 2.

Celtic—Shaw; M'Nair and Livingstone; Dodds, Cringan, and Brown; Wilson, Gallagher, M'Lean, M'Menemy, and Browning.
Dumbarton—Miller; M'Grory and Marshall; Durnin, Raeside, and M'Gregor; Ritchie, Trotter, M'Culloch, Finnie, and Thom.

BRISK GAME AT BROCKVILLE.

FALKIRK, 2; HIBS, 2.

The Falkirk and Hibs engagement at Brockville Park ended in a two goal draw. Neither side should be displeased with the result. The game was played on a snow-covered field, but the footing was fairly secure, and there was only one incident to mar the pleasure of the game, namely, the injury to M'Culloch, of Falkirk, who had to retire just before the interval. The Hibs were in difficulties as to a team, and played Templeton in goal, while Falkirk had to take the field without M'Leod and M'Tavish. All the substitutes gave a good account of themselves. After Croall had missed a chance which nine times out of ten he could have played, Miller, of the Hibs, gave his team the lead. Allan had only partially cleared from Campbell, and the Hibs' centre got the better of the goalkeeper on the goal line. At the interval the Hibs held their one goal advantage.

In the second half the Bairns rearranged their attack, Simpson going to inside. The four forwards had a stiff struggle against the Hibs' defence, and it was only after twenty-five minutes' play that Watson netted the ball off a long cross from Simpson. Allan had to deal with a variety of shots from Miller, Moir, and Campbell. The Falkirk quartette, playing with more vigour and opening out the game better, began to mesmerise the Easter Road defence, and Sime put the Bairns on the lead, after Watson had tackled Templeton with a hot cross shot. This achievement was certainly somewhat unexpected. With only five minutes to go the Hibs braced themselves for a final effort, and after the ball had bounced from the left wing to the centre, Bennett got his foot on it, and Allan had to own himself beaten. Templeton gave a good display. The backs were both good. Gordon was the best of the halves, and forward Miller, Kilpatrick, and Campbell got through most of the work. For Falkirk the defence was middling, and the centre-half, Comrie, gave them considerable support. Forward, Simpson, Sime, and Croall were best.

Falkirk—Allan; Mitchell and M'Leod; Scott, Comrie, and Harvie; Simpson, Watson, Croal, M'Culloch, and Sime.
Hibs—Templeton; Borthwick and Dornan; Kerr, Gordon, and Kennedy; Kilpatrick, Bennett, Miller, Moir, and Campbell.

MAN WHO MATTERED AT HAMILTON.

HAMILTON ACAS., 2; MORTON, 1.

Wilson (late of Middlesboro'), and now in the army, appears to be a lucky magnet for the Hamilton Academicals. Every time he dons the Hamilton jersey the local team bring off a deserving and meritorious victory. This happened yesterday, when the Douglas Parkers opposed Greenock Morton at Hamilton. Wilson was the man who mattered in the game, and in the first half he had two great goals for the winners. For a prolonged spell in this period the Accies were the brighter and brisker lot on the ice-bound field. It is true the Greenock side put in a big effort as the interval approached. They indeed played well in defence, but taken all over they were a trifle the inferior team. It was well on in the game ere Morton counted, Broad being the scorer.

ORMONDE, Morton.

Towards the close play lacked interest and sting, the truth being that the pace set in the early stages had told on both. It was a popular victory for the Hamilton side, and Wilson fulfils all the ideals the local enthusiasts hold regarding the business-like centre forward. Mason was in good form between the uprights. Robertson was the better back, while Graham and Purdie excelled in the half-back line. Next to Wilson the ground side best forwards were M'Neill and Ford, the Morningside junior.

For Morton Bradford did brilliant and cheering work. Morrison and Ormonde in the early stages were a tower of strength, and even at the close both backs were kicking strongly. Other players who caught the eye were M'Intyre, Wright, Gourlay, and Seymour.

Hamilton Academicals—Mason; Robertson and M'Allister; Purdie, Graham, and Kerr; M'Neil, Ford, Wilson (Middlesbrough), Kyle, and Greenhorn.
Morton—Bradford; Morrison and Ormonde; M'Intyre, Wright, and M'Lean; Grant, Gourlay, Broad, M'Nab, and Seymour.

CLOSE GAME AT CATHKIN.

THIRD LANARK, 0; RANGERS, 1.

There was very little good play shown in this game at Cathkin, and the twelve thousand or so spectators got very little to enthuse about. Gnr. Jas. Brownlie was an attraction, and Rangers fielded Sergt. Muirhead in centre vice Brown, who could not travel. Thirds had only ten men to start with. Love's train was late, and Duncan partnered Aitken. The ground was responsible for a lot of mistakes, but it seemed that the players on both sides had also got a touch of the frost. At least that was the impression formed on the first-half display. The forwards on both sides showed no inclination for combination, and spasmodic runs was all that accrued. Muirhead was not a success at centre-forward, and the Thirds centre half, Johnny Hannah, had no difficulty in holding him. Brownlie showed a masterly touch when he stopped a point-blank shot from Cairns, and the only danger at the other end was when M'Lean drove a hard one to Hempsey.

BOWIE, Rangers.

The second half was not long set agoing when Rangers assumed a most aggressive attitude, and a quarter of an hour's pressure brought what proved the only goal of the match. Brownlie saved grandly in a rush, but a few minutes' later, in a combined attack, Muirhead placed the ball through from a few yards out. After that Thirds had more of the game. M'Lean twice was nearly through. Bissett was feeble, and Aitken not much better. Rangers played a more open game. Archibald and Cairns had some romps, but were held by the stubborn defensive play of M'Cormack and M'Gowan. Walker, too, had a hand in the game, and his bouts were enjoyed by the crowd. Manderson and Blair were none too sure, and a truly aggressive forward would have paid Thirds, who were not beaten on play, if we except that little pressure early in the second half. Brownlie, M'Cormack, Walker, Hannah, Weir, and M'Lean were best for Thirds, and Manderson, M'Kenna, Dixon, Archibald, Cairns, and M'Dermid showed good Rangers' form.

Third Lanark—Brownlie; M'Cormack, M'Gowan; Walker, Hannah, and Brown; Bissett, Weir, M'Lean, Duncan, and Aitken.
Rangers—Hempsey; Manderson and Blair; M'Kenna, Dixon, and Purcell; Archibald, Bowie, Muirhead, Cairns, and M'Dermid.

HOW HEARTS FAILED.

HEARTS, 0; MOTHERWELL, 1.

Hearts were decidedly unlucky to drop full points to Motherwell. They had on Mather and Gibson, but lacked the services of Millar and Nellies. The players had considerable difficulty in keeping their feet. In six minutes Motherwell were a goal up, which turned out to be the only one scored in the game. Ferguson got the leather from Lennie, and, after tricking M'Lean and Kiernan, placed the ball in the net. It was a well-taken point. Retaliation came from Sharp, Bowson, and Gibson, all of whom made praiseworthy efforts, but found in Rundell they had something to beat. Ferguson plied his wing men with well-timed passes, and only the sterling defensive tactics of Mercer, Kiernan, and Ross kept out the visitors. Hearts gradually came more into the picture. Latterly, the ex-Larkhall and Motherwell keeper did good work in clearing from Mercer and Gibson. In the second half Hearts stormed Rundell's citadel for a time, Dawson and Mercer being most aggressive and determined in their efforts to reduce the leeway. Bob was apparently out to celebrate his marriage by effecting a victory for the Tynecastle crowd, and only the steady defence of Murray, M'Skimming, and Rundell kept him from being successful. He was so keen on scoring that he left Ferguson rather often, and only the bright movements of Black kept the centre from repeating his early score. Ross had the better of the strong Motherwell right wing. Towards the close Hearts were much in evidence, Gibson and Dawson being most persistent in their efforts to score. Kiernan kicked strongly throughout, and was the pick of four good defenders, Murray being very steady on the Motherwell side. Finlayson and Stewart shone for Motherwell at half. Ferguson was the best of a moderate Motherwell front line. Mercer and Ross put in great work for the Hearts, whose forward line lacked combination, Dawson being best of the five.

Hearts—Black; Kiernan and M'Lean; Barnes, Mercer, and Ross; Sinclair, Sharp, Gibson, Dawson, and Honeyman.
Motherwell—Rundell; Murray and M'Skimming; M'Intosh, Finlayson, and Stewart; Lennie, Rankine, Ferguson, Gardiner, and Archibald.

QUEEN'S SWAMPED AT FIRHILL.

PARTICK THIS., 5; QUEEN'S PARK, 1.

Partick Thistle made full awards for recent failures against Queen's Park by swamping the Spiders at Firhill to the tune of five goals to one. It was a game even more one-sided than the score would suggest. Queen's struck a bad patch right away, and they were well beaten by a team superior in almost every department save goal. The game was played on a hard, treacherous pitch which greatly hampered the movements of the players, and an unfortunate accident to Elijah Cresswell a minute from the interval snuffed out all hope of a Queen's triumph. Even before this Thistle had a firm grip of the game which they never once relaxed. Queen's scored in seven minutes, Hillhouse capping a fine individual run by flashing the ball past Ferguson. The Thistle speedily equalised through King, who netted at short range. From this stage the homesters took the game in hand, and it was only a question as to the extent of the margin at the close.

Left with but ten men to battle the second half, the Queen's had a gruelling time of it. Only twice after the cross over did the Thistle goalkeeper have to handle the ball, and Duncan saved the Hampden Park lot from an even more decisive beating. All five Thistle forwards netted. The most spectacular goal of the match was when Willie Whittle dribbled through the defence, let fly, and catching the rebound from Duncan's clearance, netted with an unsavable shot.

For Thistle, the outstanding players were M'Mullan, Joe Harris, Whittle, King, and Bowie; while for Queen's, Duncan, Cowan, and M'Kenzie in mid line. Alan Morton and Hillhouse were most prominent.

Something like 10,000 spectators witnessed a one-sided game, which was played in a dense fog and on a dangerous surface. Thistle have thus to be humbled on their own pitch this season—a proud record for the Queen's Cross team.

Partick Thistle—Ferguson; Adams and Bulloch; J. Harris, Hamilton, and M'Mullan; Whittle, King, Reid, Gray, and Bowie.
Queen's Park—H. Duncan; A. Cowan and A. Ford; W. Grant, K. Mackenzie, and D. M. Inglis; W. J. Aitken, E. J. Cresswell, R. Hillhouse, H. Paton, and A. L. Morton.

CAIRNEY'S HAT TRICK.

AIRDRIEONIANS, 4; AYR UNITED, 1.

After a struggle punctuated by good and moderate play in turn by both sides, the League game at Airdrie ended in a comfortable win for the Broomfield side. Earnestness and good fielding, especially during the latter half, had something to do with Airdrie's victory. The turf was snow clad and hard as iron, and this accounted for frequent mistakes. The game was not [illegible] progress till Cairney, from close [illegible] plunked on first goal for the 'Onians. Neilson, Ayr's pivot, who, by the way, [illegible] his football career in the Airdrie Competitions, and afterwards play[illegible] 'Onians for a time, gave a fine ex[illegible] and was instrumental in equalising [illegible] good shot. Subsequent play was of moderate character. Airdrie played for close football for the conditions. Ayr, on the other hand, adopted the swinging game which was the correct thing to do, and fifteen minutes prior to the interval generally hovered in the vicinity of Airdrie goal. The shooting of the lads from the of Burns lacked the necessary finish, 'Onians were more lucky in this respect before crossing over Cairney shot a goal for his side.

Mr Chapman's boys gave an improved play in the course of the second half. Pat Neilson failed to improve on a [illegible] pass from the left, Rankin with a [illegible] transferred play to the other end, crowned all with a low shot which gave side a third goal. Galbraith (late Albion Rovers), who played instead of Paterson, Airdrie, made good ground on the left and at an opportune moment crossed to Rankin. The latter in turn laid the leather at the foot of Cairney, who shot a beautiful third goal—the third from his own foot. Subsequent play brought out nothing of note, and time was piped with Airdrie leading by four goals to one.

Airdrie—Bernard; M'Donald and Watson; Knox, and Hart; Rankine, Duncan, Paterson, Donaldson, and Low.
Ayr United—Lock; Semple and Brock; Somerville, and M'Laughlin; Morton, Devine, Thomson, and Middleton.

ABERDEEN DEFEAT MILITARY.

ABERDEEN, 4; ARMY ELEVEN, 3.

The game between a British Army eleven and Aberdeen at Pittodrie proved thoroughly attractive. After leading at the interval by a goal the military representatives had to acknowledge defeat to the extent of four goals to three, Jock Wilson with three goals and Robertson with one, as the two secured by Gordon and M'Candlish, the issue beyond doubt. Gordon, Brewster, Colvan, and M'Intosh excelled in a clever eleven, while Aberdeen's best were Wylie, Duffus, and M'Donald.

Teams:—
British Army—Sergeant Hendry; Sapper Collins and Sergeant M'Intosh (Hearts); Private M'Master (Celtic), Sapper Brewster, and Private Smith (Hibs); Private Scott (Hearts), Sergeant Miller (Hearts), Sergeant Gordon (Rangers), Second-Lieutenant Grosert (Hibs), and Private M'Candlish (Hearts).
Aberdeen—Anderson; A. M'Robbie and Scott; Crichton, Duffus (Dundee), and M'Donald (Dundee); Herron (Dundee), Walter, Wylie, Robertson, and Gordon.

£100 FOR FOOTBALL RESULTS.

Here is an opportunity of winning £100.

All you have to do is to forecast sixteen correct results. There is NO NEED TO GIVE SCORES.

The competitor who gives the sixteen correct results gets the £100. In the event of more than one competitor being correct the prize will be divided.

If no competitor sends in a coupon giving the sixteen correct results, a Consolation Prize of £10 will be awarded to the competitor who sends in the coupon with the largest number of correct results.

In the event of more than one competitor sending in a coupon with the same number of correct results, the Consolation Prize will be divided.

On the accompanying form you will find a list of sixteen matches which are to be played on Saturday, December 29.

RULES GOVERNING THE CONTEST.

Strike out in black ink the name of the club you think will lose. Any other form of marking will disqualify your entry. If in your opinion any game will end in a draw, leave the names of both competing teams.

In the event of any of the matches not being played or being abandoned or postponed, the prize of £100 will not be awarded, but the offer of the consolation prize will still hold.

Any number of entry forms may be enclosed in the same envelope.

Any entry form on which an alteration of any description has been made will be disqualified.

Each competitor must give his or her real address, and must write his or her signature and address in ink.

In all matters relating to this competition the Editor's decision is final and legally binding, and competitors may enter only on this understanding.

MATCHES TO BE PLAYED ON DECEMBER 29.

Bury	v. Stoke.
Oldham Ath.	v. Liverpool.
Rochdale	v. Blackpool.
Bradford City	v. Birmingham.
Leicester Fosse	v. Bradford.
Rotherham C.	v. Sheffield W.
Sheffield Un.	v. Barnsley.
Tottenham H.	v. Chelsea.
Fulham	v. Crystal P.
Queen's P.R.	v. West Ham.
Ayr United	v. Celtic.
Clyde	v. Clydebank.
Hamilton A.	v. Airdrieonians.
Queen's Park	v. Kilmarnock.
Rangers	v. St Mirren.
Dumbarton	v. Hearts.

I enter this competition in accordance with the printed conditions in "The Post Sunday Special," and agree to accept the published decision as final and legally binding.

Signature, ...

Address, ...

.....

.....

This competition is run in conjunction with the "Weekly News."

The Editor cannot accept responsibility for loss or non-delivery of any entry form, and does not accept proof of postage as proof of receipt or delivery.

No correspondence can be entered into in connection with this competition.

The Editor reserves the right to disqualify any entry, but agrees not to disqualify without good and sufficient reason.

Entries must be sent by post addressed to "£100 Results Editor," "The Post Sunday Special," 188 Port-Dundas Road, Glasgow, and posted so that they reach us not later than the first post on Wednesday, December 26.

Result of Football Contest—Matches Played December 15.

No one correctly forecasted all the results in above contest, but one competitor submitted a form showing one error, and our consolation prize of £10 is therefore awarded to Robert Parker, 15 Orchard Street, Renfrew.

RAPID SCORING AT RUGBY PARK.

ILMARNOCK, 4, CLYDEBANK, 2.

ll the interest of the contest at Rugby k between Kilmarnock and Clydebank crowded into the last ten minutes, when e goals were scored in rapid succession. game, however, had been well wor re that, and there was really never any bt as to the final issue. For most of time play was dull. The footing was heinous, and all against good football re were changes in both teams. Clyde k were without Croot, while Kilmarnock k the field without such stalwarts as milton at back, and Henderson, Culley, Rutherford, which makes their success the more creditable. The ease with ch they got their goals took the edge their keenness.

t the first one, Fulton missed with the foot and scored with the other. The nd goal was got by the same player a penalty kick that was too severe a nishment for the offence. Fulton's third l was smartly taken by a hook from awkward angle. This made a spate in ring. Shortt converted a penalty for Clydebank. Alex. Goldie immediately lowed with a fourth for Kilmarnock, d in the gathering darkness Sutherland re the ball past Blair. While Kilmark were the better team, their play was below their regular form. Thom, of dder, made his first appearance for Kilrnock at back, and created a very ourable impression. He is a keen ker, and throughout played with fine gment. Clydebank's great weakness their inability to finish accurately. ir share of the play was not much less n Kilmarnock's, but they never seriously abled Blair. M. Goldie was the best of front line, while Shortt was the ngest of their half-backs.

Kilmarnock—Blair; Thom and Mitchell; Johnstone, and Mackie; Hamilton, Smith, Fulton, Goldie, and M'Phail.

Clydebank—M'Turk; Law and Ferguson; Walker, rtt, and Baird; Neish, Brander, Sutherland, ers, and Goldie.

OOR PLAY AT PAISLEY.

ST MIRREN, 0; CLYDE, 1.

There was considerable dissatisfaction ng the St Mirren supporters over the lt of their game against Clyde at Paisley, d there is no doubt the display of the e men was very poor. The ground was a very slippery state, but that was as bad the one side as for the other, and it her curiously did not trouble the Clyde so much as it apparently did the Saints. exhibition of the St Mirren front lot s really the worst they have given for ne time, a fact which is emphasised when remarks that they had about two-thirds the game, and none of the scoring. There s no redeeming feature in their play, and d it not been for the sterling defence of wn, Logan, Walls, Orrock, and M'Queen, ould have been a sad day for the Paisley n.

he Saints erred repeatedly in passing the ll back instead of forward. M'Queen, s was loaned for the day by the Rangers, ked cleanly and cleverly. Dolan did not ress, but he certainly could not have ed the goal against him. Clyde's strength lay in their defence line. Thorpe and Lellan fairly excelled themselves. The rk of Rae, Cowan, and Watson was ally good. But if we cannot compliment Saints' front line, no more can we comment that of the Clyde. O'Kane shone t near goal. Howie and M'Gowan were hardest workers, and Currie and mmon played the right game for the day, ing the ball away quickly. Thanks to the de's sterling defence, Singleton was not ched to any extent. Scorer for Clyde, Kane. Attendance, 6000.

Mirren—Doolan; Orrock and M'Queen; Brown, an, and Walls; Pringle, Lindsay, Marshall, efield, and Durward.

yde—Shingleton; Thorpe and M'Lellan; Rae, an, and Watson; Shimmon, M'Gowan, O'Kane, e, and Cowie.

WESTERN CUP.

ARTHURLIE'S AWAY WIN.

ALE OF LEVEN, 0; ARTHURLIE, 3.

Vale of Leven were beaten at home by a er team. The game was played in wintry ather. The Vale goalkeeper failed to ear, and Cameron, a local lad, filled the Vale also introduced Armstrong, of le. With the ground in a treacherous dition it was with difficulty the players t their footing. Stewart scored for the tors in five minutes; and while Vale had eral good chances, they were thrown y by poor finishing. On one occasion crossbar saved the Vale goal from dis r. There was no more scoring in the half.

hile the Vale put up a better fight in second half, yet they failed to penetrate isitors' defence. In the closing stages ler counted twice for the visitors, who on their merits. Best for the winners e Harrigan, Stirling, Richmond, M'Gre , Stewart, and Miller; while on the Vale Hyslop, Logan, Maley, and Armstrong e the only players worthy of mention.

RCUSING GAME AT RENTON.

RENTON, 1; ALBION ROVERS, 0.

wing to the late arrival of the Western gue champions, the game at Renton was ur late in starting. The Rovers turned a fairly strong side, while Renton had changes. The ground was in a slippery dition. In ten minutes M'Kim scored a clever pass by Wightman what ed to be the only goal of the match. pt for a few raids on the home goal, the ers had to act on the defensive, and but the brilliant play of Hudson and his men ton would have added further to their e.

minutes after the resumption the game brought to a close owing to darkness, Renton worthy winners. For the home Henderson, Riley, Porteous, Wight and M'Kim were outstanding; while son, Penman, Ewing, Dowds, and Ben did good work for the Rovers.

HARP'S HOME VICTORY.

DUMBARTON HARP, 3; ABERCORN, 0.

Team difficulties necessitated a late start at Meadow Park, with the result that a game of two forties was played. Abercorn gave promise of making a good show in the opening stages, but the home team gradually asserted their superiority as the game proceeded, and eventually ran out winners by three clear goals. In ten minutes M'Callum got in a strong shot, which Fairweather only partially cleared, and Johnstone, rushing in, neatly headed through, while at a later period Brodie converted an accurate centre from Ferguson. Towards the interval Abercorn put in some fine aggressive work, but a strong and reliable defence nullified all their efforts to score.

The second half was only five minutes in progress when M'Callum scored Harp's third goal with a terrific drive from thirty yards' range. This further reverse seemed to finish the Abbies, as the rest of the game was played out in a listless and indifferent manner. Wharrier, Livingston, M'Callum, Johnstone, and Ferguson were outstanding for Harp, while Fairweather, Smith, M'Dougall, and R. Black were the pick of Abercorn.

GOOD WIN FOR JOHNSTONE.

JOHNSTONE, 2; STEVENSTON U., 0.

Johnstone gave a creditable show against Stevenston United at Johnstone, and deserved their victory of 2-0. In the second half the winners did the bulk of the pressing, and the outstanding men in their ranks were Stirling, at centre-half, who gave one of his best displays of the season; Jamieson, and Noble. Goal-scorers were Noble and Gettins.

EASTERN LEAGUE.

HIBS ROUTED AT HOME.

DUNDEE HIBS, 1; COWDENBEATH, 6.

Cowdenbeath, leaders of the League, beat Dundee Hibs by 6-1 on a frost-bound and snow-covered pitch at Tannadice Park. A feature of the game was the very fine combination shown throughout by the visitors. Hibs were no match for their opponents. Both in the back and front divisions Cowdenbeath excelled. Play nevertheless was not by any means one-sided. Hibs, particularly in the first half, were strongly aggressive at times, but they were well held at close quarters. Muir opened the scoring for the visitors in fifteen minutes, and not long afterwards they secured a second. Kelly on the left wing slipped the ball across to M'Kay, who sent it into the net. Hibs, however, were not idle, and M'Guire succeeded in reducing the leeway. His was a good piece of work. Before the interval, however, Gibbon notched a third for the visitors, as a result of perfect combination by all the forwards.

The second half was vigorously contested, and play was fairly equal for a considerable time. Muir latterly registered a fourth for Cowdenbeath, and in the closing stages they added other two goals. Both were secured by M'Kay, who thus achieved the hat trick. An outstanding man on the field was Birrell, the visitors' right back, and prominent also for Cowdenbeath were Gillespie, centre half, and M'Kay and Muir, forwards. Dundee Hibs were best served by Taylor, left back; Thomson, centre half; M'Cabe and M'Guire, forward.

DOGGED DUNFERMLINE.

RAITH ROV., 1; DUNFERMLINE A., 2.

Blasted hopes—that is the title which fits the contest of Raith Rovers v. Dunfermline Athletic. Raith's big win over Dundee last week, and their 4-0 victory over Dunfermline in their last Eastern League encounter at Kirkcaldy gave strong hopes of their comfortably annexing another couple of points. And this meant putting the Rovers in the running for the League Championship. Dunfermline, after being a goal down, drew level, while in the second half they took the lead. Despite desperate efforts on the part of the Rovers they kept their lead and captured the points. Those last ten minutes of the game were worth the other eighty in point of energy and excitement, but Dunfermline stuck doggedly to their lead. Sellars, in goal, had a perfect fusillade of shots to hold and acquitted himself grandly. The backs also kept their heads and defied the Raith attack, while counter-attacks ably led by W. Fisher and Neave relieved the pressure occasionally. Raith's weakness lay forward, where Young was the only man who showed anything like form. Rougvie was a failure in centre, and Weightman's services would have been of far more value if he had exchanged places with Rougvie. The Rovers' general play compared badly with that of the Athletic forwards. The half-back line was not up to its usual standard. Of the Kirkcaldy team the backs and goalkeeper defended steadily and well. On the day's play Dunfermline deserved their victory.

BOB MERCER MARRIES.

Bob Mercer, of the Hearts, now a gunner in the R.G.A., was married yesterday to Miss Briggs, daughter of Bailie Briggs, Senior Magistrate of Haddington. The marriage ceremony took place in the Parish Church of St Cuthbert's, Edinburgh.

QUOITING.

George Salome, Glencraif, 41; James Wilson, Lochore, 14. Ten yards quoiting match at Glencraig.

Thomas Waugh, Carrounhore, 61; W. Paterson, Banknock, 57. £20 match at Falkirk.

The Craigneuk Club are forward with a challenge on behalf of James Scott to play John Hastie, of Dykehead. Failing Hastie, they will put Scott up against Walter or David Glen, of Salsburgh, or J. Small, of Stonehouse. The challenge is for £20 a-side at 18 yards, and "Dise" will take the acceptance.

John Gibson, of Barrmill, writing on behalf of John Durney, puts forward a definite offer to Walkinshaw. He challenges him for £50 a-side at either St Andrew's or Barrhead Green. He refuses to make a move in this weather, and puts down the 11th May as the date. That's the offer Mr Walkinshaw and no alteration will be made on it.

Robert Monteith, Craigbank, 61; W. M'Leod, Auchenlick, 31. £20 match at New Cumnock.

WHIPPETING.

EDINBURGH.

190 yards handicap, for which 209 dogs entered, was run in thirty heats at Powderhall yesterday. The finalists were:—Buchan's (Bathgate) Review (32), Muir's (Edinburgh) Lad (33), Campbell's (Tranent) Fidelo (34), Knight's (Smeaton) Wee Norman (33), Darby's (Uphall) Black Knight (30). Result:—1 (£8) Review. Other finalists, 10s each. Betting—5 to 2 on Review, 3 to 1 against Fidelo, 4 to 1 Black Knight, 10 to 1 against Wee Norman. Won by half a yard. Time—10½ secs.

GLASGOW.

There was a large entry. Thirty-one heats were down for decision, and with the four semi-finals of last week's handicap added a good afternoon's sport was the outcome. First Semi-Final—Mr Savage's Rasp (26)—6 to 4 against. Second Semi-Final—Mr Gilchrist's Wee Jerry (30)—3 to 1 against. Third Semi-Final—Mr Ross' Snooks (21½)—3 to 1 against. Fourth Semi-Final—Mr Sutherland's Summer Time (21½)—3 to 1 against. Final—1 (£21) Mr Savage's Rasp (26); 2 (£3) Mr Gilchrist's Wee Jerry (30); 3 Mr Sutherland's Summer Time (21½). Also ran—Mr Ross' Snooks (21½). Betting—2 to 1 on Wee Jerry, 3 to 1 against Snooks, 4 to 1 Summer Time, 6 to 1 Rasp. Won by a head.

200 Yards Open Handicap—Heat Winners—Mr Graham's Gather Out (32), Shearer's Black Gyp (20), M'Cabe's Black Knight (28), Coutts' Chance (23½), Williams' Wee Dan (18), M'Guire's Wee Polly (34½), Kelly's Casino (25½), Watt's Happy Fanny (28) and Arthur's All the Same (10) (dead heat), Thomson's Liberty (34), M'Cue's Queenie (37), M'Kellar's Lonend Lad (31), Boyd's Chief of the Clan (23), Mitchell's Garrison Tower (26½), Thomson's Charlie (30½), Evan's Whin Bloom (29½), M'Donald's Economy (37), Kenyon's Flash Lady (31), Smith's That's Ours (28½), Thomson's Sorsey Lad (27½), Thomson's Lina (23), Nicoll's Cossack (24), Davidson's Black Midge (37), Osborne's Lily of the Valley (28), M'Aulay's Sing On (17), Dickson's Extravagance (28½) and Burke's Barbara (29) (dead heat), Brady's Dick (32), M'Ewan's Variety (34), Berry's Wily Night (34), Cullen's Silver Bells (28), M'Donald's Heatherbell (26½), and M'Lean's Spider (19½).

COATBRIDGE.

The finals of last week's racing were decided, and resulted as follows:—First Semi-Final—1 Shank's Don't Finish (38); 2 Ferguson's Chapelhall Boy (34). Second Semi-Final—1 Cuthbertson's Seashore (36); 2 Willie's Whifflet Boy (39). Third Semi-Final—1 Winnan's Run On (37); 2 M'Cann's Happy Kate (38). Final—1 Seashore, 2 Whifflet Boy. Betting—2 to 1 on Seashore, 4 to 1 against Whifflet Boy.

Twenty-three heats in new handicap were run off, the winners being:—Hare's Lady Isa (38), Johnstone's More Sugar (34), Thomson's Sunny Lass (37), Dickson's Silver Bell (39), M'Callum's Only Lass (31), Robert's Sister (29), Hendry's Tommy (36), Brown's Prince Albert (39), ——'s Allan Water (40), Willie's Spark (27), Watson's Fighting Mac (32), Willie's Whifflet Boy (39), Miller's Baker (38), Dick's Black Knight (36), Anderson's Wee Willie (42), Wood's Central (29), Park's Union Jack (33), Crooks' Dandy (40), Muir's Some Day (38), George's Black Gem (35), Wilson's Lady Ann (35), Brown's Saucy Sarah (32), Dunlop's Bonnie Lassie (36).

LOCHGELLLY.

1 Mr Stenhouse's (Hill of Beath) White and Black (13½); 2 Mr Anderson's (Dundonald) Wee Bess (20½); 3 Mr Forsyth's (Lochgelly) Hungry Hill (10); 4 Mr Anderson's (Glencraig) Brown and White (12½). Betting—Evens on White and Black.

WIN FOR CUPAR CURLERS.

A curling match took place at Cupar yesterday between a military rink, skipped by Brigadier-General His Grace the Duke of Atholl, and a Town Council rink, skipped by Mr J. L. Anderson, Town Clerk. The Town Council won by 22 shots to 11.

Alyth curlers had their opening game yesterday, when a match resulted in a win for the vice-president (Mr D. B. Lawson) by 10 shots.

POWDERHALL HANDICAP

In favourable weather Mr Lumley opened his pedestrian carnival at Powderhall yesterday with a half-mile handicap. A good entry was forward, about 148 names appearing on the card. The back-marker was C. J. Mears, Australia, at 50 yards, but he did not put in an appearance. The park was hard on the surface, and in favour of good running. Heat Winners:—W. Cross, Edinburgh (75), 1 min. 57½ secs.; H. Bennet, Edinburgh (75), 1 min. 58 secs.; Lance-Corporal Smith, Dennyloanhead (50), 2 mins.; J. Gowans, Edinburgh (75), 1 min. 56 secs.; J. Ewart, Edinburgh (75), 1 min. 57 secs.; J. Smith, Edinburgh (80), 2 mins. 1 sec.; J. Gordon, Leith (75), 2 mins. 1 sec.; J. Paris, Edinburgh (65), 2 mins. 1½ secs. Result:—1 (£20) Cross, 2 (£3) Bennet, 3 (30s) Paris. Betting—7 to 2 on Cross, 5 to 1 against Bennet, 8 to 1 against Gowans, 12 to 1 against others. Won by six yards. Thirty yards between second and third. Time—1 minute 52 seconds.

STOCK EXCHANGE NOTES.

(Specially Contributed to "The Post Sunday Special.")

London, Saturday Night.

Depression has reigned supreme in the Stock markets throughout the past week owing to a conglomeration of adverse influences.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the Stock Exchange has been granted an unusually long holiday for Christmas.

The hint given by the Chancellor of the Exchequer of increased taxation next year has led to the selling of some gild-edged and other investment stocks.

Canadian Rails.

The result of the Canadian elections has heartened the Canadian Railway market as a whole, but the chief interest, from the point of view of British shareholders, rests in the position of the Grand Trunk. It is reassuring to learn, therefore, that there is now a prospect of more energetic action on the part of the Board with a view to dealing with the serious position arising entirely from the abnormal expansion in working expenditure.

The line of least resistance will probably be found in an increase of rates, but this must be sufficiently large to counterbalance the big rise in working expenditure.

Under these circumstances, holders of Grand Trunk stocks will be well advised to retain them now.

Trials of the Rubber Market.

The succession of more or less disappointing dividend announcements has imposed a great strain upon the Rubber share market, which, however, has stood the test well.

The reduction in the Pataling third interim dividend from 75 per cent., a year ago, to 50 per cent. had been expected, but it is evident that the total distribution for the current year will not be maintained at the 300 per cent. level of 1916. In the meantime the shares have declined to 41s 3d.

The Brooklands Selangor report shows that the profits have doubled during the past year, but the bulk of the increase has been swallowed up by Excess Profits Duty. However, the distribution for the year has been increased by 5 per cent. to 20 per cent., on which basis the 2s shares, at their present quotation of under 6s, yield about 7 per cent. per annum, by no means excessive for a share of this type.

Oil Shares Firm.

Oil shares, after some ups and downs, have become firmer in tone.

The increase of the Mexican Eagle annual distribution to 20 per cent. on both the Preference and Ordinary shares for the past year is in accordance with the anticipations formed in this column, and both classes of shares are still worth holding as good investments.

The Mining Market

While there has been an enforced holiday during the last few days owing to London being frost and fog-bound, there was a better tone in Kaffir shares.

In Rhodesians the feature was the rise in Giants to 9s 3d, reacting to 8s 3d, still considerably better, on rumours of very favourable developments

ALARMING EPIDEMIC OF HAIR TROUBLES

War Conditions Responsible.

1,000,000 HAIR HEALTH PARCELS FREE.

REMARKABLE interest has been aroused by the ever increasing number of cases of hair troubles reported from all over Great Britain, and more especially in the great munition-making centres. Thousands of men and women are finding Hair Poverty, Premature Baldness, and Loss of Colour troubling them to-day as never before.

Is War-work responsible for all this? Actually in many cases it is.

HOW THE HAIR IS BEING POISONED.

The Discoverer-Inventor of "Harlene" and "Harlene Hair-Drill," when his opinion was sought, had much of interest to impart.

"There is certainly a great increase lately in all kinds of hair troubles, and this is chiefly due to the fact that many people do not realise how simple a task it is to make the hair wonderfully bright and healthy. In the great munition centres I have heard of extraordinary cases of hair troubles, but there are hundreds of thousands more also who are suffering from hair weakness which could so speedily be remedied if they would only accept the Free Gift I am prepared to offer. **(See Coupon below.)**

At this time, when men and women are all concentrated on war work, never has the great "Harlene Hair-Drill" exercise proved so universally triumphant. If you are worried as to your hair health send for "Harlene" gift.

Thin, Weak, Discoloured, Brittle, Greasy, Splitting, or Falling Hair rob a man or woman of even the semblance of youth. Those, therefore, whose hair is deteriorating in quality or quantity should take advantage of this offer.

The following Gift Outfit is free to you:—

1. A bottle of "Harlene," the true liquid food and natural tonic for the hair.

2. A packet of the marvellous hair and scalp cleansing "Cremex" Shampoos, which prepares the head for "Hair-Drill."

3. A bottle of "Uzon" Brilliantine, which gives a final touch of beauty to the hair, and is especially beneficial to those whose scalp is "dry."

4. The secret "Hair-Drill" Manual.

After a free trial you will be able to obtain supplies of "Harlene" from your chemist at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., or 4s. 9d. per bottle. (In solidified form for Soldiers, Sailors, Travellers, &c., at 2s. 9d. per tin, with full directions.) "Uzon" Brilliantine costs 1s. and 2s. 6d. per bottle, and "Cremex" Shampoo Powders, 1s. 1½d. per box of seven (single packets 2d. each).

Any or all of the preparations will be sent post free on receipt of price direct from Edwards' Harlene, Ltd., 20, 22, 24, and 26, Lamb's Conduit Street, London, W.C. 1.

Carriage extra on foreign orders. Cheques and P.O.s should be crossed.

"HARLENE" GIFT COUPON

Cut out and post to EDWARDS' HARLENE, LTD., 20, 22, 24, & 26, Lamb's Conduit St., London, W.C.1.

Dear Sirs,—Please send me your free "Harlene Hair Drill" Gift Outfit as announced. I enclose 4d. in stamps, cost of carriage and packing.

NOTE TO READER.

Write your full name and address clearly on a plain piece of paper, pin this coupon to it, and post as directed above "Hair Envelope Sample Dept."

"Dundee Sunday Post," 23/12/17.

NATIONAL WAR BONDS

Ensure

the Safety of the Country,

and

STEEDMAN'S POWDERS

Ensure

the health of the Country's Children.

GET BOTH.

BILLIARDS

Cook (in play)	12,044
Recce	9,814

All the Thistle forwards were on the count at Firhill. They were out to reverse the Hampden result.

Our portrait is of Miss Nellie Thornton, of 79 Brighton Street, Salford, Manchester, whose mother writes:—

"I am sending a photo of my little girl Nellie, who is now completely cured of Eczema by your 'Clarke's Blood Mixture.' Her sufferings were unbearable, and she often wished herself dead. She was without healthy skin from head to foot, and could hardly bear to stand, sit, or lie down. I took her to a skin hospital, and I kept her under their treatment for five months. They gave me ointments for her, but they did her no good. I then bought some 'Clarke's Blood Mixture' for her, and am now very thankful for her life is to the wonderful cure it has made of her."

Clarke's Blood Mixture, by reason of its remarkable blood purifying properties, can be relied upon to give speedy relief and lasting benefit in all cases of Eczema, Scurvy, Bad Legs, Abscesses, Ulcers, Boils, Pimples, Sores and Eruptions, Piles, Glandular Swellings, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Gout, &c. Over 50 years' success. Pleasant to take, and free from anything injurious.

Ask for and see that you get—

Clarke's Blood Mixture

"EVERYBODY'S BLOOD PURIFIER."

Of all Chemists and Stores, 2/9 per Bottle.

FREE "FIRST AID" for SHATTERED NERVES

NEW BOOK OF INCALCULABLE VALUE.

IF you will write to-day you can receive gratis and post free a most fascinating book, in which the new and wonderfully successful methods of overcoming all nervous troubles are plainly described.

Hitherto, electrological treatment has been reserved for those who could pay the high fees of famous specialists in Electrotherapy, or who could spare the time to avail themselves of hospital or sanatorium treatment.

This book is to be sent free, without cost or obligation, if you will fill in and post the coupon below. It is an invaluable health guide that should be in every home.

The methods of applying electricity to weak, ailing, or injured bodies as employed in the Pulvermacher Electrological Treatment, are economical, agreeable, and almost invariably successful, while the Treatment can be carried out at home or in your place of business.

If your nerves are out of order in any way this book ought to be in your hands at once, and will be read by you with enthralling interest.

This book tells you how to put your nerves in order, how to regain lost vitality, how to acquire mental clarity and balance, how to enjoy life with the zest of a healthy schoolboy, how to conquer depression, despair, melancholia.

No adequate idea of the contents could be conveyed in the space at disposal here. You must see the book for yourself. Why not obtain a copy of this free "Guide to Health and Strength" at once, together with full particulars of the Pulvermacher Appliances? Write at once.

FREE HEALTH GUIDE

By calling or posting this **FREE COUPON TO-DAY** you will receive the **"Guide to Health and Strength."** You place yourself under no obligation by applying for this Book and particulars of the Pulvermacher Appliances.

Name, ...

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.....

Post to the Superintendent, Pulvermacher Electrological Institute, Ltd., 74, Vulcan House, 56, Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.4.

COCHRANE'S HELP YOU to start a business of your own. Make money selling genuine bargains. Drapery remnants, ready-mades, handkerchiefs. Write for catalogue. Cochrane's Warehouse, 24 Victoria Bridge, Manchester.

EXPLOSIVE cigarettes, bombs, itchykoo, sneezing 30 samples, 2s 6d. Britton, Linwood St., Manchester.

FURS, Furs, Furs.—Latest styles. Great bargains by dealing direct with wholesale firm. Send for list and save from 25% to 50% off usual retail prices. Douglas & Co., 104 King's Chambers, South Street, Finsbury, London, E.C.2.

HOLLY Bough monster box of 25 Christmas cards best value of the year worth 5s; post free 1s 9d. Hampton's, 9 Scott St., Perth, N.B.

REMNANTS. We carry one of the largest stocks in the trade of all kinds of cotton and wool goods. Also ready-made and smallwares. Send for price-list, free. S. Andrew & Co., 30 George St., Manchester. Established 25 years.

THE "BRITISH BEAN" IN ITALY.

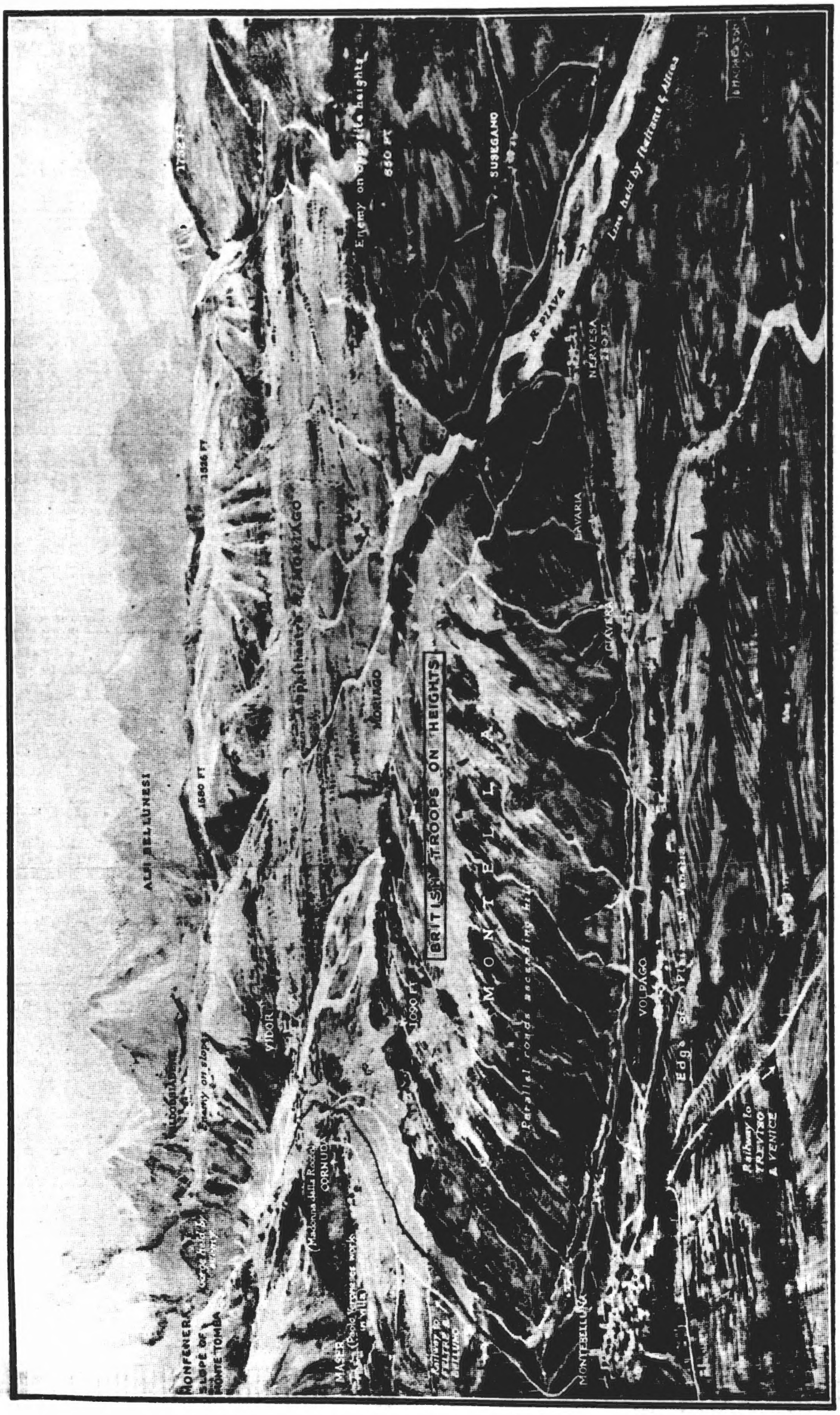
he British troops who have gone Italy have taken up their position a range of foot hills which are ut 1000 feet in height, and known Montello. The Italian soldiers ve now called this district the ritish Bean" owing to the collec- shape of the hills. These hills, ch stretch for eight miles form a ng natural barrier between the untains, river, and plain south- twards of the Piave.

The Post Sunday Special

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1917.

THE ITALIANS' HEROIC RESISTANCE.

The Italians are now putting most heroic resistance to the deep attempts of the Austrians to turn Mount Grappa position which the road to the Venetian Plain the north. The enemy has also fruitless efforts to cross the P near the coastal sector. The Ita have brought into use fl material of the Royal Navy to re the foe.



Drawn by D. Macpherson.

The key map shows where the Austro-German attack has been held up at the River Piave. First of all, the Italians were compelled to abandon their positions near the Austrian frontier, where they were entrenched, until October 20, and then they were forced to take up positions on the River Tagliamento, from which in the beginning of November they were further pressed to such an extent that they had to make their present battle line on the Piave. Although the enemy has made such great progress, the Italians are now feeling more confident as the result of the success of their defensive plans. Encouraged by the presence of the British and French troops, they are quite optimistic as to the issue, and also are certain that they will ultimately drive the forces of the enemy were able to inflict severe

Reproduced by Special Arrangement with The Sphere.

The pictorial map reproduced above gives a very graphic idea of part of the scene of the great Allied resistance put up against the attacks of the Austro-German forces. British troops are now in their positions on the Montello Hills, and, in conjunction with the French, have already come to the aid of our gallant Italian Ally. This fact is frankly admitted by the Germans themselves, who make reference in their communiques to the lively artillery firing in this particular area. Relieved by this assistance, the Italians have been able to inflict severe losses on the foe's assaulting troops on Mount Grappa, further along the line, and also on the Piave Sector (at Old Piave), near the sea, where the Italians have at several places thrown back enemy forces which attempted to cross the river.

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